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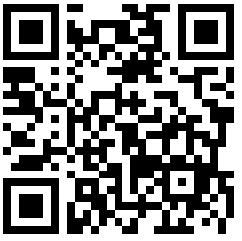

Memoir of John Kay of Bury

John Lord, William Lord

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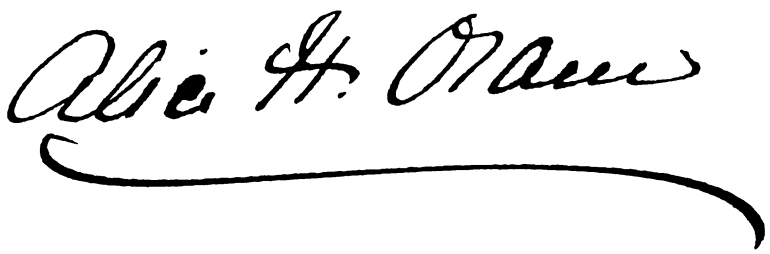

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MEMOIR
OF
JOHN KAY OF BURY

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John Kay,

Inventor of the Fly-Shuttle.

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MEMOIR OF JOHN KAY

OF BURY, COUNTY OF LANCASTER,

INVENTOR OF THE FLY-SHUTTLE, METAL REEDS,

ETC., ETC.

WITH A

Review of the Textile Trade and Handicrafts

FROM EARLIEST TIMES

BY

JOHN LORD

Author of "Bygone Bury," "Tables for Testing Tensile Strain of Metals"

TOGETHER WITH A

BRIEF MEMOIR OF THE AUTHOR BY HIS BROTHER

WILLIAM LORD

AND AN INTRODUCTION BY

ARCHIBALD SPARKE

Author of "Public Libraries and their Uses," "Handbook of Textile Fabrics"

Rochdale:

JAMES CLEGG, ALDINE PRESS, MILNROW ROAD

1903

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OF BURY, COUNTY OF LANCASTER,

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Preface.

ABOUT the beginning of the present year the author arranged for the publication, by subscription, of this volume, and in doing so met with most encouraging support. He had placed his manuscript in the hands of his publisher, and had seen the Introduction set up in type. The proof of the first chapter he never saw. That proof arrived at his residence on June 27th, some five hours after the author had closed his earthly labours. It was but on the previous day that the author had placed his finishing stroke to Chapter VIII.—Genealogical Records—by adding some information which had just come to hand in confirmation of that already in his possession. So far then as actually preparing the work for the printer was concerned, he had completely accomplished his task.

It has been my duty to superintend the issue of this book through the press. I have in doing so strictly adhered to the known wishes of the author. He had spared no efforts in his desire

Halesowen 16 June 1944

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to ascertain the burial place of JOHN KAY. It is not necessary to recount in detail the directions in which those efforts were made. I may safely say here that it is literally true that no likely stone was left unturned which gave the slightest clue to the solution of the matter. In the Appendix will be found a letter touching upon the question from Mr. J. Howard Hall, of the well-known firm of Messrs. Robert Hall & Sons, which will testify to the author's anxiety for the information as to the actual end of the great Lancashire worthy.

It has been pointed out to me that a brief memoir of the author ought under the peculiar circumstances to find a place in this book. With the exception of this preface, such memoir, and the letter from Mr. J. H. Hall, to which previous reference has been made, all that is found within the covers of this volume, is in full accord with the expressed wish and intention of the author.

The author was indebted to Mr. J. Peers, Photographer, of Ramsbottom, for the illustrations of documents and scenes found in this book.

WILLIAM LORD.

38, Clarendon Road,
Chorlton-upon-Medlock,
Manchester.
November, 1903.

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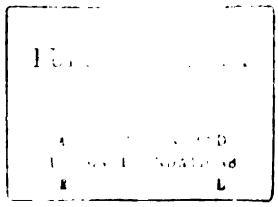

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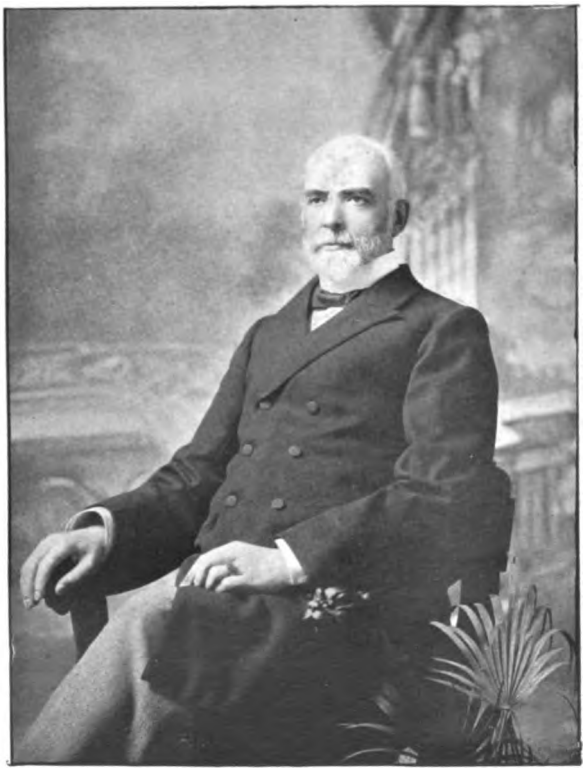

JOHN LORD.

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Memoir of the Author.

"So long as you are uncertain of anything profess yourselves uncertain; and if men condemn you for ignorance when you are willing to know the truth so will not God: but when you are certain, resolve in the strength of God to hold fast, whatever it costs you even to the death, and never fear being losers by God's truth or by fidelity in doing your duty."—RICHARD BAXTER. (1615-1691.)

AS the preparation of this *Memoir of John Kay* been in the hands of a capable genealogist, an enthusiast, and an experienced worker in life's varied fields of usefulness? Was the author in full sympathy with the subject of his memoir; had he a thorough appreciation of the details of all points that were needed to consider the fulness of character and the achievements exhibited by the inventor?

My aim in this short memoir will be to satisfy the reader that only an enthusiast, only an appreciative spirit, and a more than willing worker would have accomplished the task set out in those pages of this volume which are devoted to the life of JOHN KAY. I am quite satisfied that the author considered JOHN KAY *the* inventor in matters of textile machinery. He wrote "I claim that JOHN KAY began the earliest improvements known in Opening or Scutching, Carding and Twisting and Weaving Cotton and Wool by hand, and that the ideas now in modern

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machinery are only modifications and developments of the mechanical principles which JOHN KAY of Bury applied."

The mere statement of that claim testifies to the appreciative spirit as to the outcome of the inventor's labours. That he was an enthusiast and a laborious worker in his search for truth this volume will testify.

The author, John Lord, was born in Wash Lane, Bury, on the 21st April, 1835. He was the eldest son of John Lord (*b.* May 3rd, 1807, *d.* March 9th, 1871) and Rachel Lord *née* Openshaw (*b.* January 26th, 1812, *d.* March 25th, 1894). Residing in close proximity to his maternal grandparents the author had more than ordinary opportunities of listening to the tales of his grandfather. And what tales some of them would of necessity be! Had not the old man lived through stirring, stormy, yea trying times? The grandfather James Openshaw was the son of John and Alice Openshaw. (Born in 1776 and survived until the year 1848.) He had been to an unusual extent interested in genealogical quests and would frequently recount the details of relationships then existing among the various families of influence in the town and neighbourhood of Bury, particularising as was most natural those of his known 'kith and kin.' That the author was subject to those early influences there can be no question, for he has recorded these words, "As years went by there seemed to have been rooted in my mind a great longing to know more about the family history. No doubt this was the result of my mind dwelling on the old grandfather's stories." Imbued with such ideas the death of Thomas Openshaw of Primrose Hill, Pimhole, gave great impetus

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to this longing to know more about family connections. "Mr. Thomas Openshaw was cousin to my grandfather. The genealogical data printed in the local newspapers served as the basis of my first attempts at drawing pedigrees." It was not until a considerable number of years afterwards, when the author had settled down in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, that he was enabled to follow up his genealogical inquiries in the thorough manner in which he desired them to proceed.

At Newcastle-upon-Tyne, with work less exacting and with facilities greatly enhanced by access to vast numbers of old books, county histories, etc., opportunity and leisure were sufficient to revive dormant passion to exhaust all means and sources of information in the self-gratification of his hobby. In this work he made an enormous number of extracts and notes. In his search for links connecting families by marriage, interesting items were obtained which led the author step by step to enlarge the scope of his researches. In his own words: "The intermarriage of Openshaw with Ormerod led to a search for all that could be found about Ormerod. Dr. Whittaker's *History of Whalley Abbey* was the first mine whence was dug much of the ore which was ultimately worked up into numerous charts." After three years of labour spent upon these various charts which were the result of following up in other works such hints as were suggested by Dr. Whittaker, the author states "that he met with a shock, surprising but at the same time disquieting to the mind of an enthusiast, who had grown up to believe that of all men Dr. Whittaker could not have fallen into such a glaring error as is shown

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in the Grimshaw-Haydock pedigrees in his *History of Whalley Abbey*. (The error is still extant in more recent editions of the *History of Whalley Abbey*.) It was an error which the author declared cost him years of lost time in search. The error was discovered by the author a long time before he was aware of such a volume as *Parentalia*.*

In one of his notes the author says: "However, not to be daunted by this great error, I set forth once more in my search. My discoveries at Chetham College Library, Manchester, resulted in the compilation of a new chart of descent, fortified by Christopher Townley's corrections of Dr. Whittaker's pedigree of the Townley family. Abandoning years of labour I fell back upon the Haydock-Stansfield marriage, and this led back to the Lacy-Dean Whalley link where a Dean of Whalley marries a daughter of Roger de Lacy."

These are the two acknowledged historical facts which supply all that is needed to support the descent as set forth in the second chart contained in this volume and other extensive and far-reaching pedigrees which had been worked out by the author. So long as he was uncertain he professed himself uncertain, but being willing to know the

* In a volume named *Parentalia*—Genealogical Memoirs by George Ormerod, D,C.L., Historian of Cheshire—it is stated in a foot-note on page 7: The Pedigrees of Haydock and Stansfield are given in Whittaker's *Whalley* (pp. 333-381), but the time of their intermarriage is misplaced by one generation and the descent of Ormerod drawn from a later marriage of Haydock with Grimshaw of Clayton, which would lead to high descent, but which it is not entitled to claim.

N.B.—*Parentalia* was only printed for family reasons and private circulation and was not published in the ordinary way. It is now an exceedingly scarce book.

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truth no trouble was too great, no detailed search too trying to obstruct him in his attempts to fathom the truth. As a genealogist then the author was as one tried by fire.

Editors of important papers have referred to this trait in his character: one observing that the author was "a man of dauntless resolution whom no difficulties turned aside from achieving his purpose in matters appertaining to genealogical research. A man of wide reading with an astonishing memory for names, facts and figures, he was a most interesting conversationalist, and we can understand the feeling which prompted the gifts from his old friends which we chronicled on June 27th, 1903." Another editor referred to the author's researches into the genealogy of the Kay family as having been most profound, and added "that no labour was considered too great to complete his work."

So much for the author's enthusiasm. What then of his experience in life's varied fields of usefulness? Facilities for acquiring knowledge were most meagre in the days of his boyhood, but such as they were the author made the most of them. Leaving the day school at the age of thirteen he attended the night classes in connection with the Mechanics' Institute, then in the Wylde, Bury, and proceeding to the advanced work he became a calligraphist and an accountant of the first order. Just as he was approaching the age of fourteen he had obtained from Mr. Isaac Pitman, the inventor of phonography, a certificate of proficiency in shorthand. The author was one who "commenced" his education early in life but he never "completed" it. Believing that knowledge grew from

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more to more he never turned a deaf ear to anyone who could enlighten him upon some new or doubtful point.

The author made a very early start in the labourer's vineyard but strove hard for advancement. After doing some useful work in a very humble way he entered the employ of Messrs. Walker and Lomax, cotton manufacturers, and from office boy passed upwards until he was appointed the first secretary to the Bury and Heap Commercial Cotton Manufacturing Company. He left that Company to accept the managing partnership in a weaving establishment.

The outbreak of the American war and the consequent cotton famine soon interfered with the author's hopes, and he left the textile trade to accept a lucrative post as representative of a Manchester firm. In 1870 he moved to Brighouse, Yorkshire, having entered the service of Messrs. Ramsden, Camn and Co., a large firm engaged in the manufacture of wire. He threw his whole heart into his work and became most thoroughly acquainted with everything pertaining to the proper manufacture and varied uses of wire. So appreciative were his employers that they made two agreements with the author for terms of service binding him to the firm for a period of fourteen years. Four additional years were added to those of the agreements, and during the period of service the author had invented machinery for the manipulation and cutting of wire. He had during his residence at Brighouse compiled a series of important tables on the tensile strain of metals. In his travels he had become well-known in all the colliery districts of Great Britain.

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Having refused an offer made to him to take over the Brighouse works of Messrs. Ramsden, Camn and Co., the author established the Springfield Wire Mill at Leyland, near Preston, in 1888. He embarked in them the savings of a lifetime. In justice to the memory of the author I quote some references to this venture which were written by Mr. Bucknall Smith in his valuable work on *Wire: its manufacture and uses.* On page 79 Mr. Smith states: "Messrs. John Lord and Son have somewhat recently started their mill at Leyland, where they appear to be turning out some creditable steel and charcoal iron wire, etc." The same author, on page 68 of his book, says that "this firm figured conspicuously in the manufacturing of superior grades of steel rope wire" and adds: "some time ago the writer's attention was directed to a series of tests made with some of the wire from the firm of John Lord and Son." He then gives a lengthy tabulation of the tests, from which it will be seen that a very satisfactory sample of "uniform quality and temper had been obtained." This firm was eventually converted into a limited liability company. It was saddled with an extensive estate to protect the water rights of the mill. The company was wound up voluntarily consequent upon the foreclosure of the mortgage on the estate.

The Hartlepool Ropery Company, which had been great users of the wire manufactured at Leyland, having examined the books of the firm, erected fresh works at Hartlepool and removed the plant from Leyland thereto. They also placed the author at the head of their wire producing department.

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His connection with the Hartlepool Ropery Company existed from that period (1893) to the time of his death.

Mr. Bucknall Smith, in the afore-mentioned work on "Wire," says (page 95): "some time ago *The Ironmonger* published a very useful table by John Lord (late of Brighouse), now of the Springfield Wire Mill, Leyland, for readily calculating the tensile strengths of wire from ·270 to ·001 inches diameter at one ton per square inch for each 1000th part of an inch." Mr. Bucknall Smith follows with an explanatory statement and a copy of the tables. It has been repeatedly acknowledged that the author's tables on tensile strength of the metals have been of great value to colliery owners and mining students. He was frequently consulted by mining students in the north of England and was always willing to advise them.

Life's journey is to some people one long stretched-out monotony. To such the plains and marshy swamps best suit their indolent view. With the author it was not so. As Samuel Smiles puts it:

> "Where the will is ready the ways are not wanting.
> This Life is progress; for the better still
> We hope and strive; and oft Adversity
> Is Truth's best teacher—stimulates to life
> Else dormant faculties; invokes our faith,
> Submission and endurance."

The author held that view most religiously. His nature was to climb higher still and higher, though sometimes lost in mists, though sometimes scarred by the jagged cliffs, he adhered to the only motto which a mountaineer can think of: "Excelsior." That was the one he chose to embellish

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a manuscript magazine of which he was editor in days when printers' ink was more precious than it is to-day. He was a lover as well as a reader of books and accumulated one of the best collections of Bewick engravings. Pictures too found him much to do. He was fond of hunting out the ancient ones and restoring them so as to merit renewed recognition and appreciation. Hence his reference in the memoir to the treatment which some old pictures undergo (page 101).

I have stated that the author found at Newcastle-upon-Tyne increased opportunities of following his genealogical investigations. It was there he commenced in earnest the self-imposed task of unravelling the mysteries surrounding the ancestry of JOHN KAY. The leisure hours of several years spent at Newcastle were occupied in searches and in lengthy correspondence, some fruitful, some otherwise.

At the close of 1900 a great trouble came to him in the death of his wife, Mary Lord, *née* Hulme, whom he had married on July 9th, 1860. His wife was the eldest daughter of John Hulme of Jackson Fold farm, Pilsworth, near Bury, which farm is now in the hands of the author's younger son, Albert Hulme Lord.

In the summer of 1901, the author decided to return to and reside in his native town. He took up his abode with his sister, Mrs. Ainsworth, at Leigh's Nurseries, Elton, Bury, in that year, and thus availed himself of the quiet and leisure hours in order that he might complete, if possible, his long-cherished hopes.

When in Newcastle, the author was a member of a well-known club, which could boast of an inner circle

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known as the "Eclectics." If not very euphonious, the name is most applicable to those who felt "no pleasure is comparable to the standing upon the vantage-ground of truth." An Eclectic is a truth-seeker, one who chooses the best of everything from different systems. It does not fall within my desire to dwell in detail upon the life of the author. If I say he was intensely humane, with a deep reverence for life, I have not erred.

Perhaps I might mirror the views of others. In June, 1903, the author was the recipient of a beautiful photograph of the members of the Eclectic Club in Newcastle. It reached the author a few days before he threw off his mortal coil. A copy of the address which accompanied the presentation was printed in the newspaper on June 27th, the day upon which he died, and some portion which I now quote may well be placed on record in this volume.

> "Some time ago it occurred to the Eclectics that we should like to ask your acceptance of a portrait group of your old friends at the club. The memory of the time when you associated with us and the many happy hours we spent together still lives with us. Your genial presence, your pleasant banter, the discussions you raised, the arguments you sustained, are well remembered, and in all these and more than these no one marked an angry word, but always found you patient, generous, and kind to a friendly opponent. Perhaps all your views did not commend themselves to every member of the party equally, but the manner in which your conscientious convictions which you held so dearly were so delicately emphasised by you won the admiration of all."

The address alluded to the sorrowful loss to the author of his wife and concluded thus: "subjoined you have our

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signatures, and will you please accept our kindest solicitations as to your health, all trusting that the eventide of your life may be spent in perfect peace and bring to you great happiness." Appended were the signatures of a number of very influential citizens of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

The receipt of the address from the Newcastle friends alike unexpected as it was gratifying, did certainly give to the author a spell of great happiness. It was but a brief spell, for ere he could see the published copy of the address he had fallen into sleep.

"Sleep after toil, port after stormy seas,
Ease after war, death after life doth greatly please."
Spenser.

W. L.

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ARCHIBALD SPARKE, Esq.

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Introduction.

THE following Biography has been prepared with the desire to record the chief facts concerning the life, inventions, and family history of JOHN KAY, the inventor of the Fly-Shuttle, and to remove many fictions which have arisen concerning him. The task, which is entirely a labour of love for the author, has been difficult. The few printed records of KAY which hitherto have been accessible to those who may be reasonably supposed to feel an interest in his life are found to be misleading and inaccurate in many places, and they leave the greatest portion of his life in obscurity.

The author of this Biography has expended time and labour in recording every reference to KAY which he has met with during many years of research amongst public records and documents, and always bearing in mind that a Life of KAY

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was necessary, he was constantly on the alert for information.

The interesting material the author has collected has assumed such proportions that he considers the present an opportune time to publish it, especially as, though it is nearly 150 years since JOHN KAY died, the inhabitants of his birthplace are at last about to perpetuate his memory in a fitting manner.

KAY'S great invention, and the one with which his name will be associated for all time, is that of the ingeniously conceived Fly-Shuttle; a single piece of mechanism which went far to develop the cotton industry of this country, and was the forerunner of many other inventions in connection with what is now the staple industry of the county of Lancaster.

When it is considered that for thousands of years weaving had been followed as a handicraft, it must appear strange that the great idea underlying the invention did not occur to anyone before the eighteenth century, when this Lancashire man bent his inventive genius to the consideration of industrial processes; and the fact that KAY'S invention has never been improved upon shows very clearly the wonderful ingenuity of the inventor, who was able by, perhaps, a

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chance illumination of thought, to more than double the capacity for production of the hand-loom of his day.

A poem entitled "The Fleece," and written by John Dyer in 1757, describes the method of throwing the shuttle (before the invention of KAY's) in the following charming verse:

> "From hand to hand
> Again, across the lines oft opening, glides
> The thready shuttle, while the web apace
> Increases, as the light of eastern skies,
> Spread by the rosy fingers of the morn;
> And all the fair expanse with beauty glows.
> Or, if the broader mantle be the task,
> He chooses some companion to his toil,
> From side to side, with amicable aim,
> Each to the other darts the nimble bolt,
> While friendly converse, prompted by the work
> Kindles improvement in the opening mind."

It is easy to imagine how great would be the hopes of such a man as KAY, as he worked upon his various patents. He would naturally dream of fame and perhaps look forward to a sufficient competency as the result of his labours. He would think of the great possibilities of the weaving industry in England and other countries, especially in connection with the completion of his great invention. The radical changes which

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such a labour-saving appliance would inevitably bring about must have appealed very strongly to him. He must have possessed great will-power, and undoubtedly had confidence in the merit of his inventions; had it been otherwise he would never have worked out the many ideas which his fertile brains evolved, and which time has proved of no common order. We can at least give him credit for the exercise of indomitable persistence in pursuing those ideas until he saw them attain a practical shape. The struggle must have been at times hard because of the cruel opposition he had to meet. He did not, however, abandon his projects, but it is sad to reflect that though he saw many of them fairly launched, with promise of great and beneficent results to the human race, he was not allowed to reap anything himself but sorrow, and poverty, and persecution.

How keen his disappointment must have been when no tangible results accrued to him as a reward for his life's labour! The manufacturers drove him into the Law Courts and even founded a "Shuttle Club" to cover each other's costs when prosecuted for deliberately infringing his patents.

Not receiving the royalties he justly deserved —what could one man do against so many?—he

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could not afford to become further involved in lawsuits, although they were generally decided in his favour, and owing to want of funds he was at last obliged, thoroughly disheartened, to cease his appearances in the Courts.

What the weaving industry has lost by this treatment of KAY it is difficult to estimate. The ultimate results of his inventions were probably not foreseen or surmised even by himself. The only view which seems to have presented itself to the worker, was the idea that, if his improvements enabled one man to do the work of two, there would be no employment for one-half the number of weavers.

The last few years of KAY's pathetic career may be briefly summed up. He left England for France, only once returning, when, acting on the advice of the British Ambassador at Paris, he came over to endeavour to get some reward from the Government for the immense benefits he had bestowed on the trade of the country by his inventions. But his expectations were disappointed, and nothing being done on his behalf he returned to France, when he died there in poverty and obscurity.

Such was the sad fate of the man to whom the cotton manufacture of to-day owes so much

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of its prosperity and greatness. His improvements are still in every-day use, and the effects of the direct and indirect results of these improvements will long continue to be felt throughout the world.

It is late to attempt to repair the wrong and injustice done to KAY in his lifetime, but surely the county which owes so much of its material wealth and prosperity to his inventions will no longer withhold its meed of admiration from the man himself—a man who sought the improvement of handicrafts as an end in itself rather than as a means for his own personal gain and profit. It is impossible for a thinking person not to feel glad that the people of KAY's own town and district—whose ancestors drove him from their midst with many execrations and threats—now propose to show fitting though belated honour to his memory. It has been said—and well said—that the men who are most deserving of monuments of bronze, or granite, or marble, need them the least, because such men live the longest in the hearts and minds of their fellows. It ought not to be forgotten, however, that KAY's merits have never received the universal recognition which they have deserved. That they will do so ultimately — monument or no monument — may go

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without saying; but this movement to raise a memorial must be welcomed as a sign that the day of their recognition is approaching and is even now at hand.

The pages which follow will contribute in some degree to this much to be desired event, for —though they do not pretend to contain the last word that can be said upon the subject—they clear away much that is false and throw fresh light upon many dark places.

ARCHIBALD SPARKE.

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Acknowledgments.

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OLD MARKET PLACE, BURY.

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CHAPTER I.

BURY DURING THE LIFETIME OF JOHN KAY.

FEW Bury folks in the present generation are aware of the past history of Bury, and that there once lived in the town a famous historian and poet, John Ainsworth, who signed his remarkable literary papers with the pseudonym "Veritas." In some of his lucubrations quaint observations are often met with. The somewhat pretentious History of Bury, published about 1874, was to a great extent copied from "Veritas," and the author looked for credit without fair dealing with the name of Bury's old historian.

"Veritas" wrote about 1840:

"It is apparently clear that one of the twelve ancient Baronial Castles of this county had its site in Castle Croft, adjacent to the town, on the ancient banks of the River Irwell.

"Though the ancient structure has vanished totally, yet in the gardens fragments of the foundation are frequently dug up. When the present Clerke Street began to be built out of the Church Field and the first cellars were sunk, five cannon balls were dug out of the ground at a depth of nearly two yards; three of these balls seemed to be about ten-pounders, and the other two about half that weight; I had these in my hand and saw them taken out of the cellar.

"The parish church of Bury, dedicated to St. Mary, had fallen into decay and was much dilapidated, when about the middle of the eighteenth century it was decided to erect another; and in

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the year 1776 the whole edifice was taken down *except the Steeple*, and rebuilt.

"The present fabric of the parish church is spacious and handsome, but the old small semi-spire and steeple detracts (says Baines) from its appearance, and ought to have shared the fate of the church. The top of this steeple was blown down a few years ago, and it was decided by the Rector, and Churchwarden, Mr. Wike, that the semi-spire and steeple should be taken down to the belfry.

"The living has been much improved of late years by an Act of Parliament passed in the year 1764, which empowers the Rector, during his incumbency, to grant leases of land for building upon, renewable at any period in the interim. One half of the town is Glebe belonging to the Rector, and the other half is leasehold under the Earl of Derby."

The sketch of the Old Market Place and the adjacent east side of Old Fleet Street have been specially drawn and the old ground plan of the Old Market Place adhered to, allotting the sites to the old edifices shown. The house next to the "Old Grey Mare," was the residence of the son of the inventor, John Kay, Junior, Shuttlemaker, before he became a Silk Mercer, and of him something interesting is recorded by "Veritas." In this house one of the descendants of JOHN KAY, and Elizabeth, his wife, *née* Lonsdall, lived as maid, wife, and widow, to a ripe old age.

The reader will have formed some faint idea of Bury from the sketch of the Old Market Place. The foundation stones of the Old Bury Cross are shown in the open space. These stones came to be known, years after the Cross had been taken away, as the "Fish Stones," where the open sale of fish was permitted.

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Old Fleet Street, Bury.

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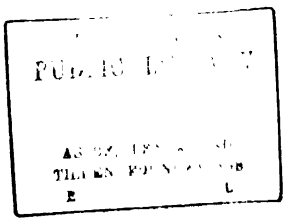

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The spot now forms the site of the monument erected in the year 1852 to the memory of Sir Robert Peel, Bart.

Where could a more fitting site be found for JOHN KAY'S statue than on the site occupied by the tall lamp opposite the Peel monument? JOHN KAY was the forerunner of Robert Peel, and the man who opened the path to wealth for the first Sir Robert to tread and prosper therein.

Upon that site JOHN KAY'S statue would be at home. His descendants had their home there, as indicated in the illustration of Old Fleet Street.

Soon after the Norman Conquest (1108-1109), says Brewer:

"Great swarms of Flemings leaving their country, on account of floods, repaired to the eastern coast of England, and were troublesome to the inhabitants.

"Henry removed them to Pembrokeshire; where their descendants still retain a distinction from the aboriginal Welch."

The same historian further records that

"In 1173-1174, amongst the rebellious English barons was the Earl of Leicester, many of whose men were Flemings and Normans, whom by fair promises he had allured to attend him on the desperate expedition against Henry on his return from Ireland."

We may assume it is amongst these adherents the prominent knights of Woodsome, county of York, were found. Times changed, and the royal clemency was extended to these people.

Burke's version of the lineage of the Kayes of Woodsome, is to the effect that Sir John Kaye married the heiress of Woodsome of Woodsome. This knight

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is shown to have had a brother, who, after marriage with the heiress of Crompton of Crompton, became the head of the Keaghs *(sic)* of Lancaster. This family of Crompton of Crompton, were of the family of De la Leghs, but, whether offshoots of the Cheshire De la Leghs, or another family in the county of Lancaster of that name, has not been recorded. The change from De la Legh to the adoption of the territorial name of Crompton of Crompton, came about sometime after the family had come into the possession of the district now known as Crompton, near Oldham.

Brewer, quoting Verstegan, tells us that in the time of William II.—

"An inundation dislodges and ruins vast numbers of Cottages on the coast of Flanders. In their distress they find an asylum in England. Many are permitted to settle in Cumberland, &c., afterwards they remove to the district of Ross in Herefordshire, where they defend the borders and introduce their country's manufactures."

Once more, it is recorded in history, that about 1320, a further influx of people from Western Flanders took place, chiefly under the crown's authority, primarily to work by their methods of manufacture here. Lancashire had its quota, and so had Yorkshire. Amongst these were the Kays. We have two place-names in the parish of Bury which appear, in the absence of a more learned authority, to connect with the Flemish settlements in and about Bury.

"Tutchroad" is written in some old documents "Dutch-road." This is in the neighbourhood of the second name referred to—"Shuttleworth."

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The Heralds' College assigns Arms to Sir Ughtred Kay Shuttleworth: Quarterly, first and fourth ar., three shuttles sa., a canton of the last; second and third ar., two bendlets sa., between as many crescents az. The mottoes: "Kynde Kynn, Knawne Kepe," also "*Prudentiæ et Justicia.*"

The Kay Arms proper, showing no differences, are: Ar, two bendlets sa.

The contingent of these immigrants from Western Flanders who made the neighbourhood of Bury, county of Lancaster, their home, were in 1332 represented by at least one substantial personage, who at the collection of the Exchequer Lay Subsidy for the year named, headed the list of his neighbours in the parish of Bury:

Willo Kay . .	paid	iij$^{s.}$	iiij$^{d.}$
Rico de Notehogh .	„	ij$^{s.}$	
Rog^{9} de Walm^{9}esleghñ	„	ij$^{s.}$	
Willo de Bury .	„	ij$^{s.}$	iiij$^{d.}$
Johñe de Routesthorñ	„	ij$^{s.}$	

The author has not met with any record of an early Cay or Kay, in the county of Lancaster, in the Pipe Rolls antedating the year 1332. In other public documents evidence has been found of many branches of Kays in the parish of Bury, indicative of residence about Walmersley and the sunny side of the moorland wastes south of Rooley Moor and Knowl Hill, and reaching to "Wyedale," at the old bridge at Bury over the Irwell. This leads to the conviction that these families were prospering onward from 1332 to 1450. Probably they formed the mainstay of the population in this parish of Bury at that period.

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Waugh describes the district around in such happy phrases, that no one will blame the author for enlisting him in the present enterprise:

"The face of nature has been so much changed in Lancashire during the past century that it is hard to conceive what the country was like three or four centuries ago.

"In ancient days, when men never dreamt of the slumbering wealth beneath the surface, its soil was reckoned among the poorest in England, and its people among the hardiest; its range of hills rolled across the country in stormy waves of lonely moorland; its cloughs were impassable swamps; its forests were wild hunting-grounds, kept for the pleasure of the king and the nobles of the land; its roads were chiefly ancient bridle-paths; and upon its plains there were vast tracts of wild heath and spongy moss. Sterile, remote, and unattractive, it held little communion with the rest of the kingdom, except when stirred by some great event which roused the whole land to war. Then, indeed, the strong-bred bowmen and billmen of Lancashire mustered from their leafy nooks and followed the banners of their proud aristocracy to many a well-fought field, where their stern front and deadly shafts have spread dismay amongst the boldest foes. In those wild times Lancashire was famous all over England for its terrible bowmen. In many of its ancient towns—as Rochdale and Bury—there are places which, though now covered by modern streets, still bear the name of 'The Butts' where the ancient population practised archery, then the warlike sport of the yeomanry of England."

The Laurrel-Butts or Glory-Butts, near Bury, is a local reminder of the old days. Waugh proceeds:

"Ancient Lancashire was a comparatively roadless wild; and its sparse population — scattered about in quaint hamlets and isolated farm-nooks, were a rough, bold, and independent race,

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clinging tenaciously to the language, manners, and traditions of their fore-elders; and despising all the rest of the world of which they knew next to nothing. Its simple life was singularly self-contained, and what little traffic it had was carried on by strings of pack-horses, upon rugged tracks, which had been the pathways of the ancient inhabitants of the land from the earliest historic times. These facts leak out in all we read of Lancashire in the olden time. The learned Camden, after travelling over the rest of the kingdom, implored the protection of Heaven before entering on a region so little known and of such wild repute as Lancashire was in those days; and Arthur Young, the famous Suffolk agriculturalist, writing about the end of the last century, complains in vigorous, old-fashioned English about the state of Lancashire roads at that time. He lived long enough, however, to see the beginning of a new state of things in that county."

This may be considered a fairly accurate description of the hill country between Rochdale and Bury in 1694, when the family, from which the subject of this memoir descended, became owners of "Rothwells of the Park."

In 1650 there were only twenty-four houses in Shuttleworth as certified at the Church Survey.

Guest, in his *History of the Cotton Manufacture*, makes the following observations:

"The population of Lancashire, before the introduction of the cotton manufacture, was chiefly agricultural. In those days, the Squire was the feudal Lord of the neighbourhood, and his residence, or the Hall, as it was called, was looked upon in the light of a palace. He was the dictator of opinion, the regulator of parish affairs, and the exclusive settler of all disputes. On holidays the rustics were invited to the Hall, where they wrestled, ran races, played at quoits, and drank ale. An invitation to the

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Hall was a certificate of good character; not to be invited along with his neighbours was a reproach to a man; because no one was uninvited unless he had been guilty of some impropriety. The Clergyman had scarcely less influence than the Squire, his sacred character and his superior attainment gave him great authority; he was generally from Oxford, and in those days the appellation of Oxford Scholar was understood to describe a man of learning and piety.

"The events of the neighbourhood flowed in a regular, unbroken train; politics were a field little entered into, and the histories of each other's families, including cousins five times removed, with marriages, births, and deaths, &c., formed the almost only subjects of their conversations. There was little fluctuation in prices, little competition between individuals, and the mind became contracted from this general stagnation and its being so seldom roused to exertion. The greatest varieties of scene which they witnessed were the market day of the village, and the attendance at Church on the Sabbath, and the *summum bonum* of their lives was to sit vacant and inactive in each other's houses, to sun themselves in the market place, or to talk over news at that great mart of village gossip, the blacksmith's shop.

"About 1740-1750, there arose a second-rate class of merchants, called Fustian Masters; these resided in the country, and employed the neighbouring weavers; and the mode of conducting the manufacture at that time was as follows:—The master gave out a warp and raw cotton to the weaver, and received them back in cloth, paying the weaver for the weaving and spinning; the weaver, if the spinning was not done by his own family, paid the spinner for the spinning, and the spinner paid the carder and rover. The weft spun in 1760 was of six different qualities — six-penny, eight-penny, ten-penny, fifteen-penny, eighteen-penny, and two shillings, so called from the price per pound paid for the weaving. The six-penny was about five

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hanks to the pound, the eight-penny about six, and the ten-penny about eight hanks to the pound; the fifteen-penny, eighteen-penny, and two shillings, were about eleven, thirteen, and sixteen hanks to the pound. A hank is eight hundred and forty yards. These wefts were made into goods called pillows, chains, thick-setts, barragons, and denims. The weaving of a piece containing twelve pounds of eighteen-penny weft, occupied a weaver about fourteen days, and he received for the weaving 18s. The spinning of the weft at ninepence per pound, amounted to 9s. The picking, carding, and roving at ninepence per pound, amounted to 9s. Thus when the weaver took home the piece, he received thirty-six shillings. A weaver required three grown persons to supply him with weft. There were also finer qualities of weft spun for cotton velvets, some as fine as forty hanks to the pound. Forty-hank weft sold for six shillings per pound, including carding, roving and spinning.

"In 1760 Oats were 2s. per bushel, 45 lb.
Wheat was 5s. per bushel, 70 lb.
Meal was 20s. per load.
Jannock, 15 lb. for 12d.

"The Master attended the weekly market at Manchester, and sold his pieces in the grey to the Merchant, who afterwards dyed and finished them."

The inhabitants in the township of Walmersley-cum-Shuttleworth were small farmers. Their labour was husbandry, spinning, and weaving; and, says Guest:

"The original Mode of converting the fleecy contents of the fruit of the Cotton tree into Thread, for the purpose of being woven into Cloth, was the distaff and spindle, and this mode is still used in Hindostan.

"The superiority of texture and the durability of the India Nankeens, and Long Cloths, are owing to this mode of spinning,

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which disposes of the fibres of the cotton more evenly, and twists them into the body of the thread more than the spinning machines do.

"The spinner holds the distaff between the left arm and the body, his left hand is nearer to the distaff than the right, the hands are kept about two inches asunder, and pull from the fleece a continuous lock of cotton wool, the right hand drawing out and twisting so much of the lock as is between it and the left hand into a fine thread, which is farther twisted by a pendent spindle or bobbin, which is kept constantly twirling round, and on which the thread is afterwards wound. This process is the one used from the earliest ages."

Akerman, discoursing on the old methods, says:

"These implements appear to have been anciently the type and symbol and the insignia of the softer sex in nearly every age and country. They are not unfrequently mentioned by the oldest authorities. Homer speaks of golden spindles as fitting presents for ladies of the highest rank; and Herodotus tells us that Euelthon's last and most significant gift to Pheretine was a golden spindle and a distaff with wool."

He also gives a Bible reference which the author sets out thus, as found in Proverbs, xxxi. c., premising that the Massani were a nation of India:

"The words of Lemuel, King of Massa
Which his mother taught him.
A virtuous woman who can find?
For her price is far above rubies.
The heart of her husband trusteth in her.
And he shall have no lack of gain.
She doeth him good and not evil
All the days of her life.

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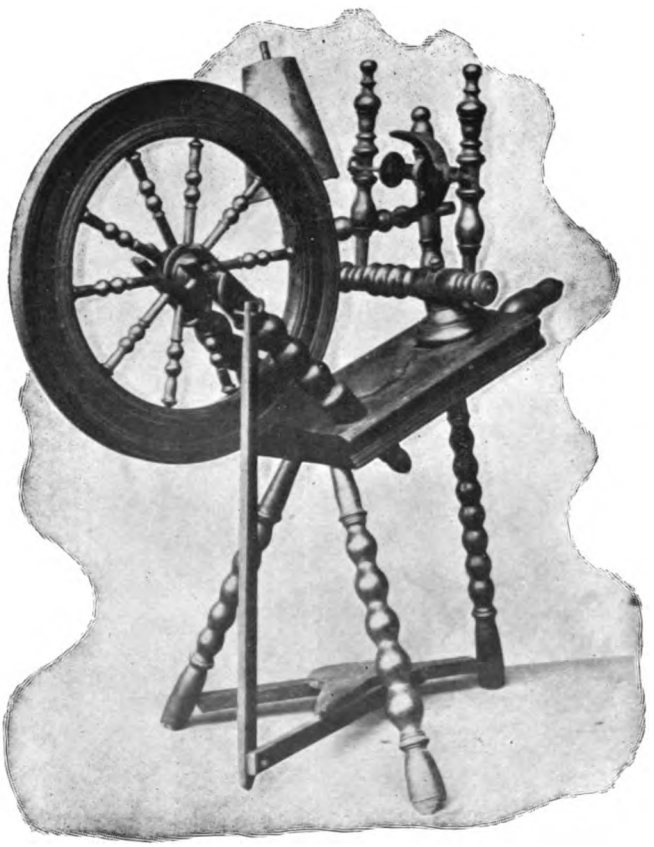

SPINNING WHEEL.

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She seeketh wool and flax,
And worketh willingly with her hands.
She layeth her hands to the distaff,
And her hands hold the spindle.
She maketh for herself carpets [or cushions] of tapestry;
Her clothing is fine linen and purple.
She maketh linen garments and selleth them;
And delivereth girdles unto the merchant.
She looketh well to the ways of her household,
And eateth not the bread of idleness.
Her children rise up, and call her blessed."

Akerman continues:

"Pliny states that it was the custom to carry before the Roman bride a distaff charged with flax, and a spindle likewise furnished.

"Descending to later times, we find the distaff and the spindle still more conspicuous as the distinguishing badge of the female sex. Among our own Saxon ancestors, the 'Spear half' and the 'Spindle half' expressed the male and female line; and the spear and spindle are to this day found in their graves.

"The science of the moderns, has however, banished (from this country, at least) even the spinning-wheel, an improvement on the simpler process of the distaff and the spindle.

"The spinning wheel is stated in the *Dictionnaire des Origines* to have been invented by a citizen of Brunswick in 1530.

"We have good evidence that a wheel was actually used in spinning at a much earlier date than the sixteenth century. A manuscript in the British Museum, written early in the fourteenth century, contains several representations of a woman spinning with a wheel; but she stands at her work, and the wheel is moved with her right hand, while with her left she twirls the spindle. This is in fact the wheel called 'a torn,' the term

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for a spinning-wheel still used in some districts of England.

"The spinning-wheel said to have been invented in 1530 was doubtless that to which women sat, and which was worked with the feet.

"In the *Boke of Husbandry*, said to have been written by Anthony Fitzherbert, a judge of the Common Pleas, *temp.* Henry VIII., the writer urges attention to the growth and preparation of flax, which, he says, 'maie they make shetes, bord-clothes, towells, sherts, smockes, and such other necessaries; and therefore let thy distaffe be always redye for a pastyme, that thou be not ydle. And undoubted a woman can not gette her lyvinge honestly with spynnynge on the dystaffe, but it stoppeth a gap, and must be had.'

"This is, perhaps, one of the most significant notices to be found in our literature of the use of the distaff and spindle. It shows that spinning, although a needful art, was the occupation of female leisure, the employment of the rich and the poor in the intervals of more important business, and in the long nights of winter.

"The distaff was, in fact, like the fancy-work and crochet of our day, a remedy against idleness; and was rarely abandoned, except when other duties demanded attention, and forbade its use." *

In Baines's *History of the Cotton Manufacture*, this investigation into the ancient methods in vogue among nations may be pursued. The illustrations of Indian weavers, spinners, and modern improvements, will well repay examination by the reader interested in the subject.

Radcliffe, the inventor of the "Dressing Machine,"

* John Young Akerman, F.S.A.: *Transactions of the Society of Antiquaries*, vol. xxxvii., pp. 83-101.

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writing of the district round Stockport, makes a statement which, to a large extent, may be accepted as applicable to Bury and adjacent places:

"In the year 1770, the land in our township was occupied by between fifty and sixty farmers; rents to the best of my recollection did not exceed ten shillings per statute acre; and, out of these fifty or sixty farmers, there were only six or seven who raised their rents directly from the produce of their farms; all the rest got their rents partly in some branch of trade, such as spinning and weaving, woollen, linen, or cotton. The cottagers were entirely employed in this manner, except a few weeks in the harvest. Being one of those cottagers, and intimately acquainted with all the rest, as well as every farmer, I am better able to relate particularly how the change from the old system of hand labour to the new one of machinery operated in raising the price of land. Cottage rents at that time, with a convenient loom shop and a small garden attached, were from one-and-a-half to two guineas per annum. The father of a family would earn from eight shillings to half-a-guinea at his loom; and his sons, if he had one, two, or three alongside of him, six or eight shillings each per week; but the great sheet anchor of all cottages and small farms was the labour attached to the hand-wheel; and when it is considered that it required six or eight hands to prepare and spin yarn, of any of the three materials I have mentioned, sufficient for the consumption of one weaver, this shows clearly the inexhaustible source there was for labour of every person from the age of seven to eighty years (who retained their sight and could move their hands) to earn their bread, say one to three shillings per week, without going to the parish."

Amid such scenes, and among a population employed in farming, and in the spinning of wool, flax, and cotton, as thus described, JOHN KAY saw the first beam of sunlight.

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Before giving attention to his personality it will be desirable, peculiar as the plan may appear, to disprove the fanciful and erroneous statements, which have so long been associated with his name. This must be the subject of another chapter, and must precede whatever it may be possible to say about the inventor, or his youth, character, and work.

The volume published by Lieut.-Col. Thomas Sutcliffe, about the year 1843, was embellished with the motto, "Truth *versus* Fiction." The sequel will show if this was an appropriate one. In Chapter III. the "statement of facts" made by Lieut.-Col. Thomas Sutcliffe, the great-grandson of JOHN KAY, is winnowed with the one desire that "truth will come to light."

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CHAPTER II.

THE TERRIER OF THE RECTORY OF BURY.

THE interesting document which follows depicts the state of the Glebe portion of Bury in the time of JOHN KAY the inventor. Permission has been granted to the author by the proprietor of the original transcription to find a place for it in the present work. The author's desire to make the "Terrier" more accessible and issue it in a more attractive and permanent form than has hitherto been the case, will he hopes have the approval of his readers. But the author has a more pertinent object in view, namely, to familiarize the reader with the condition of Bury right on from the old Parish Church to the neighbourhood of the inventor's birthplace.

This ancient document styled a "Terrier" would now be called a Register or Survey of Land. Of the quaint terms used the word "bay" deserves special mention. Murray's *New English Dictionary* defines "bay" as "the division of a barn or other building generally from fifteen to twenty feet in breadth. Applied to a house it appears to be the space lying under one gable or included between two party walls." In 1725, Bradley's *Family Dictionary* gives "Bay: a rural word used to signify the Bigness of a Barn, for if a Barn consists of a Floor and two Heads wherein they lay Corn they say a barn of two Bays."

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A Copy of the Terrier of the Rectory of Bury,

IN THE DEANERY OF MANCHESTER, IN THE DIOCESE OF CHESTER, NOVEMBER 5TH, 1696.

Thos. Gibbs the Rector Instituted Rector of Bury, Feby. 26th, 1674-5.
Thomas Crompton, Churchwarden of Bury
Oliver Lomax of Heap
Michael Bentley of Elton
John Howarth of Walmersley
Robt. Kay, Churchwarden of the Lower Tottington
Peter Warburton, of the Upper Tottington

Throughout the whole parish (which consists of the Township of Bury and of the Township of Tottington) every Corpse carried on the Bier and buried in the Church or Church yard pays 14d. to the Rector and if in the Chancel it pays to the Rector for breaking up soil. Also every Corpse carried on the head or borne in the arms and buried in the Church or Church yard pays 3d. to the Rector and if in the Chancel it pays to the Rector for breaking up soil, also breaking up soil in the Chancel above steps at the Communion Table if the Corpse be brought on the bier is 13s. 4d.; in the body of the Chancel 10s., in Arthur Chapel 6s. 8d., but if on the head or in the arms the half of the aforesaid sums according to the place they are buried in.

Every woman churched pays the Rector 4d.

Every Wedding when Banns were asked is due 1s. 8d. to the Rector; when the Marriage is made by License 5s. For Certificate also 1s. 8d. If either party were inhabitants the same is due, *i.e.*, when married by Banns 1s. 8d. asked, when by License, 5s. whenever married. Mortuarys are due throughout the parish.

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PARTICULARLY OF BURY TOWNSHIP.

Mr. Greenhalgh of Brandlesome pleads a prescription for Tithe Corn in his demesne at 40s. per annum payable at Martinmas, but for no other kind of tithe. This prescription is pleaded only for that part of the Demesne which is within Elton; the other part in Tottington pays (Tithe Corn) in kind.

Most of the parishioners within the Township of Bury plead prescription for hay—a penny in the Easter Book in lieu of Tithe Hay yet with sundry exceptions which it were endless to give account of.

Within the said Township of Bury is due to the Rector the first 7th of calves, lambs, fleeces of wool, pigs, geese, &c., then afterwards the 10th. Also the tenth stock of corn but not tithing out of one field into another nor out of one grain into another except when there be more than two sorts of grain in the same field.

The Easter Roll runs thus — house and offering 5d., every communicant ½d., garden 1d., horse 1d., cow 1d., calf ½d. (except there be 7), plough 4d., foals 2d., sheep each a penny, every lamb 1d. (except there be 7), every loom 1d., every swarm of bees 1d. Wintering only sheep each ½d. or summering them only ½d.

PARTICULARLY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF TOTTINGTON.

The Tithes of Tottington are equally divided, one moiety to the Rector of Bury, the other moiety to the Rector of Prestwich. The same customs and rules of Tithing and of all other dues are observed in this as in Bury Township save as follows. All the Parishioners within Tottington plead to prescription for hay 1d. a penny in the Easter Book in lieu of Tithe hay. They pay the tenth of calves, lambs, fleeces of wool, geese, pigs, and shocks of corn, except that part of Tottington which lies in Blackburn hundred which pays the 7th calf, lamb, fleece, pig, or goose.

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The Easter Roll runs thus—house and offering days man and wife 5d., a single householder 2½d., hen ½d., hay 1d., plough 1d., half a plough or 2 horses ½d., every communicant ½d., foal 1d., lamb ½d.

Concerning the Glebe.

One large house commonly called the Parsonage wherein the Rector dwells consisting of eight bay and a half a large garden or orchard having the yard upon the West; a backside having the Schoolcroft on the North, a court yard having the house on the North; another garden or orchard having the house on the West and the Schoolcroft on the North and the fold on the South. This fold lies also South of the house and has the first mentioned garden on the West and the open street on the South. In the said fold stands one very small barn eastward being 5 bay, another barn northward being 4 bay, a shippon hay barn and stable southward to the street being 6 bay.

One field called the Smithy field being 2 acres and a half of 7 yards to the perch and having the aforesaid small barn on the West, another field called Chip field being 3 acres and having the aforesaid Smithy field on the West, Eckersall's tenement on the North, some houses on Bury Moorside on the East, and the highway leading to Rochdale on the South. Also a narrow lane leading from the aforesaid small barn northwards towards the Parson's Well as 'tis commonly called and so eastward toward Chip field aforesaid between the aforesaid Smithy field and Chamber tenement.

One other field called the Great Church field being about 4 acres having a small croft of Whitehead's tenement on the East; Whitehead's house and tenement on the South; the Moss Meadow on the West and the Little Church fields on the North. The Moss Meadow being about 2 acres having the great Town Ditch on the West, Whitehead's tenement on the South, Tootill's back-

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side on the North and the Church fields on the East. Another field called Listerfield being about 6 acres, a little beyond the toll bar and on the south of the highway leading to Rochdale. It has on the East and South Whitehead's tenement, on the South a little brook which divides it almost entirely from Whitehead's tenement and on the West by Butcher Lane. ITEM—A parcel of land which is only called the great farnhill, the little farnhill and the farnhill meadow in all about 12 acres and having Eckersall's tenement on the North East and South; Chamberlain's tenement on the South and West; the River Irwell on the West and North.

All the premises are in the occupation of the Rector himself which is let out to tenants, here follows—

In the Town Street on your right hand as you go to Rochdale over against the East part of the Church yard and having the Church Bell Alehouse part of Gollinrodd Tenement on the West is a cottage being one bay in the tenure of Richard Siddall. On the East of the aforesaid is one other cottage being two bays in the tenure of Thomas Tootel, Sexton. A garden on the backside belonging to these two cottages. On the East of Thomas Tootel's is a messuage in the tenure of Richard Tootel or his assigns consisting of one dwellinghouse of eight bay and an out isle, a fold wherein is a barn and a shippon of four bay and the swine sty, two little gardens, a croft about a rood earth leading out of the Little Church fields on the South. Another croft on the backside of the said barn and shippon having the Moss Meadows on the South. ITEM—A meadow above an acre South of the last-mentioned croft and having Mrs. Stone's Moss Meadow on the East. South of the said meadow of Tootel's is the middle field being three roods earth having the barnfield of Mrs. Stones on the East. South of the middle field is the farthest field being three rood earth. On the East of Richard Tootel's

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messuage are several cottages reaching all along the street into Gutter Ends consisting all of twelve bay with a garden and backside towards Richard Tootel's croft and Mr. Foster's dwellinghouse which is South of the said cottages; they are in the tenure of Mary Walker of Ratcliffe widow or her assigns. Gutter Ends in the tenure of Mrs. Stone on the East of the last-mentioned cottages of Mary Walker, a dwellinghouse being six bay, a barn two bay at a little distance eastward and another against the Rector's fold with a garden on the backside of the said barn, thereunto belongs the Moss Meadow being two acres and divided from the Rector's Moss Meadow by the Town Ditch and having Tootel's Meadow before-mentioned on the West. Also a field called the Higher Barn field being one acre and a half; another called the Bigger Barn field being 2 acres and a half; and another called the Rushy Meadows one acre all lying together South of both Moss Meadow and having Tootel's middle field and farthest field on the West and Whitehead's Tenement on the eastward. Behind and South of Mary Walker's cottages aforesaid is a messuage in the tenure of Roger Foster consisting of a dwellinghouse of 5 bay and a small yard North of the said house and a garden South of the said house. Also the two little Church fields being 4 acres having the said yard and house and Tootel's croft on the North, the Rector's Moss Meadow on the West, the Rector's Great Church field on the South and other parts of the Glebe land on the East.

East of Gutter Ends and to the Highway leading to Rochdale is a cottage of 5 bay and a stable of one bay over against the Rector's fold yard with a garden belonging to it late in the tenure of Widow Leach but now of John Birch of Manchester or his assigns.

Next unto the last-mentioned cottage eastward is the aforesaid barn of Mrs. Stones.

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East of the said barn of Mrs. Stones are some cottages consisting of five bay, a garden on the backside of them and a parcel of waste towards the street and East of the said cottages in the tenure of Roger Foster or his assigns.

East of the said waste is a little croft or shippon one bay and a cottage four bay in the tenure of William Heywood or his assign.

East of the last-mentioned cottage are several cottages of five bay, a garden on the East, and a little backside in the tenure of Alice Lee or her assign.

East of Alice Lee's is a cottage of two bay with a garden in the tenure of James Greenhalgh or his assigns.

East of James Greenhalgh's is a cottage of one bay and some waste in the tenure of Mrs. Major or her assigns.

East of Mrs. Major's is a cottage of two bay and a stable of one bay in the tenure of Roger Johnson Tinker.

In the Town Street on your left hand as you go to Rochdale east of the Church yard and over against Tootel's messuage before-mentioned are three cottages and a barn consisting of fifteen bay, a backside wherein are two small gardens and four bay of stabling more and behind these is a large garden or orchard having the Rector's garden on the North, the Church yard on the West, the Rector's fold on the East. Hereunto belongs a croft of half an acre something remote towards the Tollbar and on the South side of the Highway leading to Rochdale. This croft has the Little Church fields on the West, the Great Church fields on the South and is commonly called the Clough Croft, all in the tenure of William Heywood aforesaid or his assigns.

East of William Heywood's cottages aforesaid is one cottage just at the Rector's fold yard of two bay in the tenure of Edward Hind Junr. or his assigns.

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East of the Rector's fold on the edge of Smithy field are two cottages of three bay with a small garden in the tenure of Mr. Ellison Rector of Ashton-under-Line or his assigns.

East of Mr. Ellison's cottage is a cottage of three bay in the tenure of Mary Hind, Widow.

East of Mary Hind's are several cottages of 14 bay with a Waste next the smithy of two rood in length all reaching to the Tollbar and two gardens backward joining to the Smithy field. Hereunto belongs a croft on the other side of the way and west of Butcher Lane being a rood earth. All in the tenure of Mrs. Wamsley or assigns.

At Bury Moor Gate on the left hand of the way leading to Rochdale are some cottages over against Listerfield of seven bay and three bay of barning, one garden and orchard and backsides having Chipfield on the North. All in the tenure of Mrs. Stone or her assigns.

Eastwards of these last-mentioned premises and bending Northward toward Little Wood Cross is a cottage of three bay and seven bay of barning, and a croft about 17 yards broad and 12 roods long also a garden and orchard having Chipfield on the West and separated from the Highway by a little cottage and croft belonging to the Earl of Derby and occupied with the same by Ann Hind. The aforesaid Glebe croft stretches itself from the barns all along the side of Chipfield to Richard Jenkinson's croft and to the corner of a hedge which divides the said croft from the tenement of Lawrence Booth.

Near to the top of Chamber land is a little cottage of one bay on the left hand as you go up a narrow ginnell in the tenure of Mary Hind, Widow.

On your right hand as you go up the said ginnell is one cottage of three bay with a garden on the left hand of the said ginnell in the tenure of Richard Acton; also another garden between the said cottage and Chipfield.

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On the same right hand up the said ginnell are two cottages more of 5 bay being joined to Richard Acton's, a garden on the left hand and behind the said cottages a croft joining to Chipfield. All in the tenure of Richard Jenkinson or his assigns.

At Brookshaw is a dwelling-house of 5 bay, a barn of 4 bay, the great croft 3 acres, the lower field 2 acres, the farther meadow 1 acre, all west of the tenement of John Hamer of Chesham and south of Brookshaw House. There is also an orchard and garden all in the tenure of Mrs. Stones.

At Smith's, upward towards Little Wood Cross, is a house of 3 bay, a stable one bay, a garden and orchard, the croft, the great field, the brook field, the little edish all by estimation 7 acres and lying on the east of the house the great field butts upon James Hardman of Lees except that part of it which is called Penny Lane about 2 roods in breadth. The brook field and little edish have James Hardman of Chesham's Tenement on the east in the tenure of Mrs. Stones or her assigns.

At Pimhole is a house of three bay, a barn of two bay, a garden, the high field, the low field, and some small ground about the house and barn all about 4 acres and 2 roods earth having Edmund Heywood's tenement on the West and North, a small brook and Heywood's tenement on the North and East, James Sale's tenement and the said little brook on the East and South and the River Roch on the South. Hereunto belongs a three square small parcel of ground lying beyond the little brook and joining to James Sale's orchard in the tenure of Mary Openshaw, Widow.

At Pimhole is also another house of 3 bay, a barn of 3 bay, a garden and orchard, the barn field, the green croft, the eyes, the warth, in all by estimation 7 acres. The barn field lies eastward of the said house. The other fields South and the whole is on the East, the South and the West divided by the River

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Roch from Wild's and Duckworth's tenement and on the other sides by Edmund Heywood and Mary Openshaw's tenement. There is a clod of earth belonging to the premises which lies on Wildes side of the river at present and another which at present lies on Duckworth's side of the river. All in the tenure of James Sale.

At Deepmoss is one dwellinghouse being two bay, one barn two bay, a meadow at the West end of the house, the great field and the Mossfield on the North of the house. The fields called the Over Botham and the Lower Botham a little meadow on the East of the house, with a little garden, all by estimation 8 acres having Cobbas Nab and Ashworth Demesne on the east and Arthur Partington's Close on the West. In the tenure of Mrs. Stones or assigns.

Arthur Partington's Rough Close is about 3 acres having Cobbas Nab on the North, a lane leading to Cobbas Nabb on the East and John Smithurst's Moorground on the South.

At Deepmoss is another house of 2 bay with a barn of 2 bay and a stable at the West end of the barn, the little meadow, the rushy field, the barn field, the stone pit field, and the great meadow all by estimation 6 acres and 2 roods earth having Whitehall tenement on the West and Cobbas Nabb on the East in the tenure of Mrs. Stones or assigns.

In the tenure of John Howarth is a small parcel of ground being 29 perches having Shuttleworth Mill Damm on the West, the brook on the North and Robert Howarth's Bank on the South.

A three square close about 3 roods earth having on the South a lane which comes out of the highway between Pigs Lee and Bodenstone and leads to Glorybutts in the tenure of Mrs. Stones or assigns.

A Close being one acre lying to the Highway on your right hand as you go from Bury to Pigs Lee Bridge the north end of

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which close reaches to the said Bridge in the tenure of James Taylor.

Birchen Bower consists of one field called Cinderhill one meadow called Bothams, another meadow called the Nook of Askly all about 2 acres and 3 roods earth and has a rush field belonging to James Hardman of Lees on the South, a moor close of James Hardman of Chesham on the East, and some lands of the Earl of Derby's occupied with the premises on the North by Holt.

A parcel of Moss upon Heap Moor having John Duckworth's Moss on the West and joining near to Joseph Jackson's house. Robert Livesay's Moss on the North and Pillsworth Moor on the South-East by estimation about 1 rood of earth.

Another parcel of Moss upon Bullow Moor having Pillsworth Moor on the South, Oliver Lomax's Moss on the North and the inclosure on the East by estimation one rood earth both in the occupation of the Rector himself for getting Turf.

A parcel of Common being barren heath ground and a turf moss upon Arden Moor. It is 1 acre and 1 rood earth and 18 perches but mixed among other charterers and not known from their Commons as neither is their Common known from one another's — only a list is preserved among the neighbours which assigns to every charterer a certain quantity and amongst the rest unto the Rector as is aforesaid.

MEMORANDUM that James Haddocks and Peter Tootell's cottages and the waste lying to 'em just at the Tollbar on the right hand leading to Rochdale being compact round about with Glebe land except the Highway are verily thought to be encroachments upon the Church and my Counsel told me positively they were.

It is a great question whether Mr. Greenhalgh of Brandlesome's prescription is good especially as to that part of the Demesne which is my Lord Derby's Land.

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NOTE.—That Cisly hough Close and Schofield's ground being three little closes in all about 6 acres and a half after 7 roods to the acre and usually occupied with the Demesne and acknowledged not to be within the pretended prescription of Brandlesome but have paid me Tithe in kind as also all Mr. Greenhalgh's lands within Tottington have paid Tithe in kind and ought to do.

IN ACCOUNT OF TITHE HAY OF THOSE WHO PAY HALF A LOAD EVERY YEAR.

1. Haslam Tenement containing the Parliament Ground and some other ground on the other side of the Highway all now in the tenure of John Allen Gent.; or his assigns.
2. Lawrence Fletcher of Fletcher Fold in Redivals.
3. Richard Lomax, now Henry Whitehead's in the same Fletcher Fold.
4. George Fletcher of Fishpool with John Dawson and John Smithurst.
5. Widow Walker of Fishpool.
6. John Hardman (now James) of the fields in Redivals.
7. Richard Kay of Pidiwams in Redivals.
8. Matthew Booth of Redivals.
9. Widow Heaton of Redivals.
10. Richard Barlow and Widow Crompton whereunto belongs
11. Maurice Joshua Horrocks and Mr. John Allen's little tenement all near to Blakeworth Bridge (Blackford Bridge).

12. John Hamar's
13. Robert Shepherd's
14. Ralph Shepherd's
15. Henry Hardman's

All four of Chesham and Tenants to Mr. Holt of Castleton.

16. Thomas Kay of Elton Fold.

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OF THOSE WHO PAY A LOAD EVERY YEAR.

1. Eckersall's Tenement.
2. Heywood's or Hurst field.
3. Dearden's (*alias* Simons).
4. Widdall, which consists of Plants and Rd. Kay's Tenement.

THE NAMES OF THOSE WHO BRING THEIR TITHE HAY.

Fletcher and Richard Lomax (*alias* Whitehead) both of Fletcher Fold.

Mathew Booth of Redivals and Widow Heaton.

Fletcher of Fishpool and Widow Walker with others thereunto belonging.

Richard Kay of Padiwam.

Hardman of the Fields.

Barlow and Crompton, &c.

Haslam Tenement and Deardens.

THE NAMES OF THOSE FROM WHOM THE RECTOR FETCHES THE TITHE HAY.

Thomas Kay of Elton Fold Plants, and Richard Kay of Widdall, Eckersall's, Heywood's; Hamar, Ralph Shepherd, Robert Shepherd, Henry Hardman, all 4 of Chesham.

Booths of Tenters were wont instead of Tithe Hay to give the Rector liberty to get stone in his tenement but after the Lord set the Delfs I received Tithe Hay or compounded for money.

Tithe Hay was also due from Chamber's Tenement instead whereof by an old agreement in writing which William Roger Holt shewed me it was concluded that Hay penny at Easter should only be paid and the pool and well at the east of the Scholecroft was granted unto the Rector in compensation.

Tithe Hay is also (I consider) due from John Mode, William Kay (now of Cross Hall) being all 3 in Wellby's, this ground being lately taken out of the Moor being the Lord's Royalty.

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QUERY.—Pilkington's Town in Elton and Burgess's near the Town.

Mr. Whitehead for the fields pays yearly 2s. 6d. by a pleaded prescription. All the rest pretend to subscribe for hay 1d. at Easter.

SOMERS'.—Those above-mentioned that pay half a Load every year have taken a custom among themselves to pay a whole Load every other year after the following manner.

Robert Shepherd and John Hamer at Chesham each a Load in the even years as 90, 92, 94, &c.

Henry Hardman and Ralph Shepherd each a Load in the odd years as 91, 93, 95, &c.

Lawrence Fletcher a Load in the year.

R. Lomax (*alias* Whitehead's) in the year.

Thomas Kay of Elton Fold in the odd years.

Matthew Booth of Redivals in the even years.

Widow Heaton of Redivals in the odd years.

Fletcher, Smithurst and Dawson of Fishpool each his year every third year.

DIRECTIONS.

Never believe the Tottingtons. They'll not stand to their word.

'Tis well if a Bond will hold them.

Demolish that House at your Fold—it harbours poor fitching people and is uncomely at the entrance. I unadvisedly set it when it was in my own hands.

Compound not with tenants for life but for 7 years, and so at every 7 years end. 'Tis as good for the tenants if you are moderate (as I advise) as for yourself.

If the Tottingtonians will be fair which I question you should endeavour some maintenance for a Minister among them for they are mere brutes.

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Never permit any to bury in your Chancel. I have myself begun to refuse it because it fills your Chancel full of dust nastiness and makes the area full of rows and to stink in places which is very uncomely for though at the beginning I have set down what has been usual to take for those that were buried in the Chancel yet it is undoubtedly in the Rector's power to refuse any burying there.

Now that whereas in the Terrier sent to Chester and another reserved in the Parish Chest 1d. only is said to be due for a plough yet that was my mistake 4d. being due as with the Inhabitants of Bury well know and particularly my Proctors.

Set Bamford and Heywood, but give nothing to their Chapel unless they'll give you a full value for their Corn Tithes.

I say Corn Tithes for I do advise you not to set the Easter Dues nor the small Tithes.

When you set that Tenement formerly Toothills now Mrs. Hollands and is like to descend to her from Tootel, suffer it not to be occupied through the Church field and Moss Meadow but through Consels. Lease the Glebe land out if you can but for years and so on at the rate of one year's intended value. If you Lease them for the Incumbency take two years' value and no more, but see that you have a just estimation of them. Mr. Foster's house and outhouses and the two large Church fields are supposed now to be set at the rack viz.: £5 but I am told are worth £10. These were but lately taken out of the Demesne Glebe.

Set out their Corn Tithes severally to every one his own but to some farms of the whole Hamlet or a large district who will undertake for all, orwise you will have no ease by setting them. Some will not take and some will fail and so the Tithe will return into your hands again to disadvantage and you'll be forced to gather much of it in kind and so put to as much charge and pains as if you had set none at all.

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When you set your Tithe Corn of any Hamlet or District tie the farmers by covenant that they shall not set any part of the Hamlet or District unto others that have not taken their own Tithes for these latter to gain a better bargain of you for their own will refuse to plough and will take some of the former's Lands to get Corn which will be of great prejudice to you.

In the Leases to Tenants condition with them to remove quietly if they do not compound with your successors, get their Bond for it, this was my mistake. I caused the Tenants to be excused paying to the Church leys and repairs but they ought to help you towards the repairs of your Chancel which you may by covenant provide for, laying them and yourselves in a just proportion. Let this be one proviso and covenant in the Lease, and be sure to tie all the Tenants to your Malt Mill who shall grind with you all the Malt spent on the premises.

Mr. Sugden my present Curate through my easiness and kindness to him (but undeserved) has got a License from the Bishop which he not only trumps up against me but intends it also against you and thinks he has a settlement here for life in spite of me or you. Though you cannot fling him out without the Bishop's consent yet you may starve him out and I advise you so to do unless he will fling in his license or the Bishop will recall it. 'Tis unreasonable my rashness and good nature should entail a Curate upon you and if you yield he and his particular friends will crow over you. You may expostulate the matter with the Bishop and tell him 'tis unreasonable a Curate and servant should be imposed on you but that he ought to depend on you. If nothing else will do 'tis but by declaring you'll keep no Curate and doing all yourself till he removes and then you are quit of him.

Mr. Haddon's little son John, my Godson and his father yours and my friend, I desire you'll think of him hereafter and if he proves capable of it get him into Captain Hulm's Exhibition. Pray forget not this.

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MEMORANDUM OF JOHN STANLEY, RECTOR OF BURY, 1743.
Instituted July 19th, 1743.

The houses called Moorside houses returned to the Rectory by Mrs. Stones (the last tenant) chusing rather to resign than to repair them. Accordingly I chose rather to repair than to lease them to others which I did at my own expense and as the rent is thereby doubled I applied half of it (which is about £3 10s.) to the buying of Bibles and prayer books or other tracts yearly for the use of the poor trusting to be followed in that good work by all my successors for ever, as it is an Income arising from my expense.

I insert it in four leaves that the tenants shall not set to others beyond the term of the present Incumbent, upon forfeiture of their Leases, otherwise the undertenant perhaps will not quit as presuming on his eventful right and to give your successor trouble as I found in the case of the Whitehorse and as now is the case of the Poorhouse.

I have thought proper to Lease no Land but only the houses to avoid all pretence of claim which some may presume in virtue of possession.

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CHAPTER III.

THE FANCIFUL AND ERRONEOUS STATEMENTS REGARDING JOHN KAY, MADE BY LIEUT.-COL. THOMAS SUTCLIFFE, GREAT-GRANDSON OF THE INVENTOR.

"JOHN KAY of Bury was grandson to Sir John Kay, Bart., of Woodsome, county of York, whose second son, Robert, became a merchant, and founded that branch of the Woodsome family which resided at Park, near Bury, county of Lancaster."

So wrote Lieut.-Col. Thomas Sutcliffe. It will be seen in due course, that there is not an atom of truth in this account.

2. Mr. Kay was educated on the continent, and had during his residence there acquired a taste for mechanics; which on his return to England, and having established a woollen manufactory in Colchester, he turned to advantage.

No evidence of this exists beyond Sutcliffe's assertion.

3. The reiterated statement that John Kay's invention of the Fly Shuttle was in 1738.

This, copied from Guest, might have been corrected to 1733, if Sutcliffe had taken ordinary pains to consult the patent.

4. The "handsome print, taken from the original portrait of John Kay of Bury."

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Whether the father, the inventor, or his son John, is here alluded to is left uncertain. Note the evidence of "Veritas," who had no motive for deception.

5. The litigations with shuttle clubs about 1745 put Mr. Kay's affairs in such an embarrassed situation, that he had to dispose of various estates in the neighbourhood of Bury, that are now (1842) of great value; and his son Robert was obliged to sell the very land on which the late Sir Robert Peel, Bart., established his works there, and where the present Sir Robert was born.

There is no existing documentary evidence that the inventor ever owned land at Bury Ground, Ramsbottom, or elsewhere.

6. "The case of John Kay of Bury."

This case, set out by Lieut.-Col. Thomas Sutcliffe the writer of the foregoing objectionable items, purports to have been addressed by the inventor from Paris, in 1767, to his contemporaries, whose ingratitude had been so great. "The case of Sir Richard Arkwright," set out by Guest in his book, was familiar to Lieut.-Col. Thomas Sutcliffe, and upon it he gives us merely a travesty, written in the third person, as the original writing by JOHN KAY.

Lieut.-Col. Thomas Sutcliffe wrote:

7. "To the President and Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, Manchester, December 12, 1842."

"GENTLEMEN, on the 3rd November, I had the honour of addressing you relative to the services of John Kay, of Bury, and the distressed state of his descendants; and now in order that their case may draw the attention of the Chamber of Commerce,

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and merit your kind consideration, I beg leave to reiterate my request, and in its support to submit the following facts as 'The case of Mr. John Kay,' copied from his own writings, when he appealed to his countrymen in 1767."

In 1847 Sutcliffe had published his "Testimonial, &c.," and made the statement that the inventor died in Paris, in 1762. *Postea* No. 15.

The letter referred to in No. 7, states:

8. "His son John married the daughter of Miles Lonsdale, Esq., a wealthy landowner, connected with some of the most noble and ancient families in this neighbourhood; and who, regarding the pursuit of trade as servile, expelled her for having married the son of a mechanician."

Yet the lineage of this mechanician, according to Sutcliffe's claims, would be equal to if not higher in the scale than the lineage of Squire Lonsdall.

9. "By this unfeeling act their family became impoverished; and still there are living proofs in this neighbourhood, some of them at an advanced age, and entirely dependent upon their needle for a livelihood. I refer to the inhabitants of Bury and Rochdale, who, I am assured, can fully authenticate this statement."

The truth is, the sons died in infancy and the daughters married men of good social standing.

To Sir Robert Peel, Sutcliffe wrote:

10. "Manchester, June 24, 1843.—Referring to having taken 'the liberty of reiterating my appeal to you on the 20th of May, in behalf of myself and relatives' for a public grant, I sincerely hope you will take this case into your kind consideration; and rest assured, that no application would ever have been made by any of the descendants of the Lonsdales and Kays of

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Bury, were they not really in a situation so as to consider themselves justly entitled to claim the same consideration that the dispensers of the public bounty have conferred upon others, whose merits were not greater."

This statement to Sir Robert could only apply to Sutcliffe himself; his own mother, in her third widowhood, was in the enjoyment of a very substantial income, and survived her son many years.

11. "As Mr. Kay met with no encouragement, he gave up his concern at Colchester, and removed to Leeds, where his father had long resided, and whose memory was cherished by the inhabitants of that town. He commenced business there in 1738, and on June 24th took out a patent, in which 'His Majesty granted to John Kay, of Bury, County of Lancaster, engineer, &c., special licence for the sole making and vending of his new-invented engine or machine for raising water for 14 years.'"

JOHN KAY the inventor probably never was at Colchester, except as a seller of his reeds and shuttles. His father never resided at Leeds, and was dead before the inventor was born. It will further on appear that Sutcliffe states that the father of the inventor died in 1727, leaving the sons to take charge of the Colchester establishment, which Sutcliffe in one place says the inventor set up; and in another place that his father had it before the inventor went there.

12. "In 1745 a great outcry was raised against Mr. Kay by the lower orders, who considered that his spinning and carding machines would deprive them of their bread. This and constant litigation with the 'Shuttle Club' obliged him to break up his establishment in Leeds. Mr. Kay left Leeds for Bury in 1745, and commenced business there as engineer, &c."

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As with Colchester so in the case of Leeds it is improbable that the inventor ever went to Leeds except to dispose of his reeds and shuttles. His carding machine was not completed for many years after, when his son Robert, in 1753, saved the model from the mob which entered Bury to destroy everything belonging to the inventor.

13. "The opposition manifested by the spinsters to his 'Billys' (the spinning machines) did not deter him from making further improvements on them; but unfortunately one of his operatives, a clockmaker, was seen at work on the model of a spinning machine by a woman, who told her gossips; and they, fearful of being deprived of that lucrative branch of industry which gave them full employment and good wages (as much as 20s. per lb. was paid for the finest weft), alarmed their neighbours, and a mob was collected for the purpose of destroying the machine, which was prevented by the timely interference of the worthy rector and magistrates."

Sutcliffe here confounded JOHN KAY of Bury, with the noted clockmaker, John Kay of Warrington. No evidence has ever been produced that the JOHN KAY of Park ever had a clockmaker in his employ.

14. "This unfortunate affair (Kay's association with Messrs. Byrom and others in the meetings in 1745, at Manchester, of the rebels, who favoured Prince Charles Edward), nearly ruined Mr. Kay; and as misfortunes seldom come singly, he still had to suffer a greater one, for in 1753 a mob entered Bury, and in spite of the authorities, broke into Mr. Kay's house, destroying everything they could lay their hands upon."

Kays of Park were, according to tradition, Jacobites; but Sutcliffe is here writing without evidence to support

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his statement. This meddling in politics is made to fit the statement that the inventor returned to Bury by way of Manchester.

15. "He was received by the French with open arms, and the Council of Commerce treated him with extraordinary marks of regard, and promised that his inventions and ingenuity should be rewarded beyond his warmest wishes or expectations. Mr. Kay, drawn by dire necessity and paternal affection for his children, who wanted bread, made proposals which the Council absolutely refused to accept, unless he would agree to terms that would deprive him of the ability of returning to his native country, the point he always kept in view.

"The war was raging between England and France; and, 'before anything could be done for that unfortunate man he died in exile, a victim of persecution and national ingratitude,' January, 1762, leaving a son and a daughter, who had accompanied him to France, destitute. Miss Kay entered a convent and took the veil; her brother John Kay, on his return to Bury, kept a mercer's shop there; and his brother, Robert Kay, who remained in England, followed the business of machinist and shuttle maker as long as he lived."

This was published in 1847; but five years earlier Sutcliffe stated he had a "Case" of JOHN KAY sent from Paris in 1767, which was in the Inventor's own handwriting. The son he writes of was John, the original of the portrait referred to subsequently. See page 50.

In a Lecture which Sutcliffe delivered at Colchester, November, 1847, it is reported

16. "The Lecturer traced the connection of the Kay family with manufacturers,—'Sir John Kay being one of those who suffered in fortune at the fall of Charles I., bound his son Robert

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apprentice to a Levant merchant, and he was afterwards one of a firm with establishments at London, Manchester, and Leeds, in which M. De Greaves of Colchester became a partner. Mr. Kay subsequently gave up the concern at Leeds and went abroad accompanied by his son John, who there acquired a complete knowledge of the mechanical and textile arts, and took models of the machinery used in Holland and Flanders.

"Thus the war which obliged our merchants to visit the Continent gave them an opportunity of prying into the secrets of the Dutch and Belgians; and they returned, when peace was restored, with the germ of our present prosperity.

"Mr. Robert Kay died in 1728, and left his White Bay concern at Coggeshall to his son John who carried on the business of machinist and engineer at Colchester. [See *ante* No. 2]. Had the foolish operatives tolerated the Fly-Shuttle and other improvements (now in use here) in 1736, Colchester might still have maintained its pre-eminence in the staple manufacture of Great Britain."

In the statements made in this Lecture, we find Sutcliffe affirming the descent of the inventor of the Fly-Shuttle, from a Robert Kay of Woodsome, Leeds, or Colchester; who died, he says in one place, in 1727, and in this Lecture, in 1728. Whereas, the inventor's father died about April 18th, 1704; and the posthumous child—the inventor of the Fly-Shuttle, was born on July 16th, 1704. It may occur to a critical reader of the pedigree of the Kays of Woodsome, set out in a following page, that Sutcliffe was not very particular about details and dates. He passes over the fact that his claims are founded upon the wrong line of descent. But that error had to be glossed over, as there was not

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another Robert Kay of Woodsome, in direct line. In fact, direct or collateral lines of descent do not show a Robert Kay of that ilk to have ever been married. According to the "History of Kidderminster," it is shown that M. de Greaves had no associate of the name of Kay in his Colchester business.

17. "It was to be regretted that the working classes were not the only ones opposed to Mr. Kay's inventions, for many of the gentry and 'landed proprietors' shared in the delusion and considered them detrimental to the interests of the district; and on their refusal to fulfil the contract Mr. Kay had made to supply the Borough with Water, he left Colchester in 1738, to the no small satisfaction of those who were opposed to manufacturers and machinists, but lamented, and with good reason, by others."

Here we have a new cause alleged for the inventor leaving Colchester, *i.e.*, his inability to induce the borough authorities of Colchester to adopt his windmill power for raising water. That he ever had a permanent residence at Colchester will in the following pages be disputed. Moreover, his windmill was patented from his home in Bury, as will be seen when we come to the chapter on JOHN KAY'S patents.

18. "In 1730 the process of Spinning received the first impulse by a wonderful combination of machinery now worked by water and steam power; and that impulse was given by John Kay, of Park, near Bury, Lancashire, who was then engaged as an engineer and machinist at Colchester."

This statement is confusing, and must be left without comment, as two or three generations had passed away between 1730-1800.

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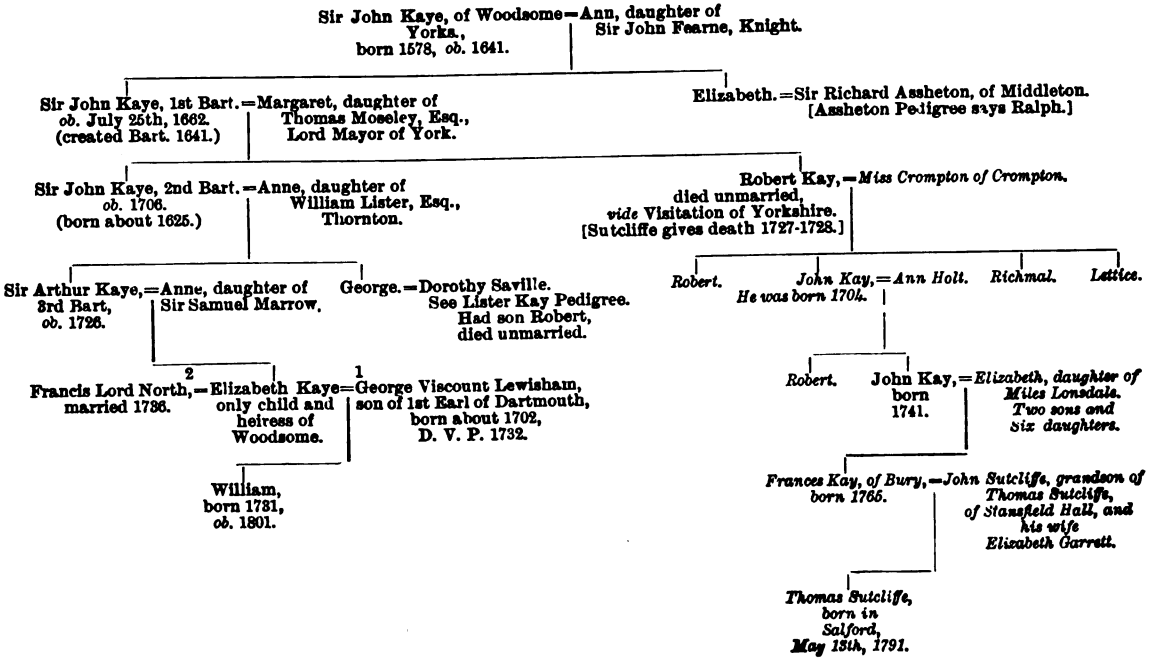
Sutcliffe's Chart alleging descent from Woodsome county of York.


Sir John Kaye, of Woodsome Yorks., born 1578, ob. 1641.
Ann, daughter of Sir John Fearne, Knight.
Sir John Kaye, 1st Bart. ob. July 25th, 1662. (created Bart. 1641.)
Margaret, daughter of Thomas Moseley, Esq., Lord Mayor of York.
Elizabeth.
Sir Richard Assheton, of Middleton. [Assheton Pedigree says Ralph.]
Sir John Kaye, 2nd Bart. ob. 1706. (born about 1625.)
Anne, daughter of William Lister, Esq., Thornton.
Robert Kay, died unmarried, vide Visitation of Yorkshire. [Sutcliffe gives death 1727-1728.]
Miss Crompton of Crompton.
Sir Arthur Kaye, 3rd Bart, ob. 1726.
Anne, daughter of Sir Samuel Marrow.
George.
Dorothy Saville. See Lister Kay Pedigree. Had son Robert, died unmarried.
Robert.
John Kay, He was born 1704.
Ann Holt.
Richmal.
Lettice.
Francis Lord North, married 1736.
2
Elizabeth Kaye only child and heiress of Woodsome.
1
George Viscount Lewisham, son of 1st Earl of Dartmouth, born about 1702, D. V. P. 1732.
William, born 1731, ob. 1801.
Robert.
John Kay, born 1741.
Elizabeth, daughter of Miles Lonsdale. Two sons and Six daughters.
Frances Kay, of Bury, born 1765.
John Sutcliffe, grandson of Thomas Sutcliffe, of Stansfield Hall, and his wife Elizabeth Garrett.
Thomas Sutcliffe, born in Salford, May 15th, 1791.

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This is the fictitious pedigree (p. 48) which the adventurer circulated with his pamphlets in 1842-3. The portions in *italics* and the item "John Kay, born 1741," have no relation whatever to the Woodsome pedigree. *Vide* Visitation of Yorkshire and Burke.

20. "Mr. Kay was ultimately driven to take refuge in France, where he died, the victim of persecution and national ingratitude, leaving his unfortunate children destitute, having patriotically refused the offers held out to him by the French Government of introducing his improvements in machinery into that country."

The inventor's youngest child, a boy, William, was born in 1745; and whether the father died in 1762, or 1767—the two dates Sutcliffe gives on different occasions—the children were all able to earn their own living. Robert, the eldest son, was married, and progressing with the shuttle business; most probably sending his father money to help him.

The "Testimonial in behalf of merit neglected and genius unrewarded, &c.," published by Lieut.-Colonel Sutcliffe, 1847, contains the following:

21. "Mr. Robert Kay departed this life A.D. 1727 [see error *ante* No. 16, which states 1728] and left his son John in charge of the establishment at Colchester. He had another son William Kaye, who became a Commissioner for victualling the Royal Navy. This gentleman was one of the founders of the Society for the Encouragement of Arts and Manufactures, &c. *O.S.P.*" [*i.e.*, died childless].

This was the Society to which JOHN KAY applied for help, and of which, we are here told that his brother William was one of the founders. If Lieut.-Colonel

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Sutcliffe had taken ordinary pains to search for "Truth as against Fiction," he would have found that Robert Kay, who died in 1727, was not the father of JOHN; and did not establish the works at Colchester. [See Sutcliffe's earlier statement, No. 2, *ante*.]

In July, 1899, some correspondence occurred through the Colchester friends, with a gentleman engaged upon a History of the Dutch and their Church at Colchester. Amongst other small matters, mutually interesting, the author asked the derivation of the name Key or Kay, in old Flemish. The reply was: "Keij in old Flemish means a flint." This etymology may by some readers, be thought synonymous with the old saying, "as hard as nails," which seems preferable to the adamantine characteristic we associate with flint. In considering for a moment the human nature exhibited by the subject of this memoir we must discriminate between the mental and emotional phases of his character. If we incline to judge his character by what we can discern was his life's work, we must credit him with unconquerable will power; and from the records relating to his home life, find him blest with an unquenchable affection for his wife and children. Never having known a father's love, should we wonder that when on his toilsome journeys in his own land or in foreign climes, he sometimes allowed his heart to dominate his head, and consented that his youngest son and companion might indulge his youthful fancies, as was his wont, in frills and head gear, and even have his portrait painted—that portrait with which we are so familiar, circulated broadcast as it was, only sixty years ago?

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The author received the following letter, in reply to a request for particulars of Colchester Registers:

"HEAD STREET, COLCHESTER,
OCTOBER 26TH, 1898.

DEAR SIR,

I have gone through the Registers of the Town Parishes and so far without success. Are you sure John Kay had any family while living at Colchester?

Yours very truly,
HENRY LAVER.

P.S.—I have another register or two to look at.

JOHN LORD, ESQ.,
Heaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne."

Presumably the other registers were in out-lying parishes close by Colchester. In a few days the above letter was followed by another (see page 52,) which seemed to close the door against all hope of learning anything of JOHN KAY'S domestic life at Colchester. No wonder at this, as the sequel to these inquiries will show. This correspondence seemed to increase in interest so far as Colchester people were concerned. A file of old newspapers was searched at the instance of Dr. Laver, and a Lecture, given by Colonel Thomas Sutcliffe, at Colchester, in 1847, was found reported at considerable length; this report was at the author's request carefully transcribed. As a Lecture, it is not in any special way remarkable, consisting as it does of the same fictions put forward in his "Exposition of Facts," and other papers which he published in his volume *Crusoniana*.

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In the autumn of 1898, further aid was forthcoming to settle the question of domicile of JOHN KAY at Colchester. The following letter was received in reply to a letter addressed, "To the Vicar of the oldest Church in Colchester,"—the letter was handed to "Dr. Henry Laver, a gentleman of repute at Colchester as an antiquary."

"HEAD STREET, COLCHESTER,
NOVEMBER 15TH, 1898.

MY DEAR SIR,

I have now been through the registers of 1, St. Peter's; 2, St. Martin's; 3, St. Botolphe; 4, All Saints'; 5, St. Giles's; 6, St. Mary's, Colchester; but I cannot find any Kays, except the register of a death in St. Martin's of the date 1741.

In this register there is an entry that several children born in St. Martin's in the years 1729-1730 were baptised at St. Peter's, but the Kays will not be among them, as the name Kay does not appear in these years in St. Peter's Register.

You have very kindly promised me a copy of your book when it comes out; for this I am obliged and will treasure it as I do anything connected with Colchester.

Yours very truly,
HENRY LAVER.

J. LORD, ESQ.,
Heaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne."

If Sutcliffe had shown more discretion he would never have issued his "Testimonial in behalf of merit neglected and genius unrewarded," in 1847. The most charitable construction to be put upon this "Testimonial" is that it was his last effort to procure a livelihood. From recent information it seems undoubted that his widowed mother, in the receipt of something like £200

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per annum, had no faith in her son; or no control over his actions. He shows pitiful ignorance of his ancestor's parentage. In No 2, *ante*, JOHN KAY "established a woollen manufactory at Colchester;" but, in this Testimonial, we find it implied that Robert Kay, who died in 1727, or 1728, for he gives both years, had "the establishment at Colchester . . . . and left his son, JOHN, in charge." The most remarkable statement follows: "Robert Kay, named as father of JOHN KAY the inventor, had another son, William Kaye: one of the founders of the Society named." It was to this Society that Robert Kay of Park wrote on his father's behalf; and if that which Sutcliffe alleges is "Truth *versus* Fiction," Robert's uncle William would be one of those before whom the letter was read. Unfortunately for Sutcliffe's case, it will appear further on that the inventor's brother William was a shoemaker in Bury.

The portraits of JOHN KAY, circulated by Sutcliffe along with his various pamphlets and his volume of *Crusoniana* differ greatly. Four prints are in existence of which no two agree. All are questionable which present him in three-cornered hat, wig, and frilled shirt. The inventor of the Fly-Shuttle cannot be imagined wasting time and money in the vanities indicated by such garb. All these portraits purport to be copied from one Sutcliffe contrived to save from destruction, when wrecked off the island of Juan Fernandez. How the differences have come about only their author could disclose. It will be found as we proceed in our investigations, that undoubted evidence of identification exists; and the witness to this identification had no

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motive but to write as he did, in glad recognition of a man he knew very well when both were younger. The letter on the succeeding page sets at rest the question of any original portrait being in London. The copy therein referred to was probably an enlargement of one that was for a very long period in the family of a descendant of the inventor, and still remains in Bury.

This supposed portrait comes under the questionable series showing the three-cornered hat, wig, and frilled shirt, and has been, in bygone days recognised as the portrait of John Kay, husband of Elizabeth Lonsdall. The portrait of the inventor which appears in this volume has been selected from the four different ones seen by the author, for the reason that there is a slight resemblance to the other three, and has a more artistic finish. The artist has secured a more matured expression, and the attitude is not suggestive of frivolous characteristics; it exhibits a calm and reflective mental balance, with firmness of purpose, and a courage not easily daunted. We see a man above the foolishness of wearing a fanciful three-cornered hat.

Who that has ever deeply considered the times these men lived in—and the state of society then existing—can imagine JOHN KAY, and Robert his son, parading the town in their leisure hours wearing three-cornered hats? Probably their holiday garb would be long cloaks and sensible headgear, as becoming the yeoman or tradesman of like degree. It is no uncommon experience in perusing old wills to meet with bequests of cloaks and hats to friends esteemed by the testator. Beaver hats and black or brown cloaks were the adornments of

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gentlemen in the days of which we write. The following letter is interesting as to this question of portrait:

"VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM,
SOUTH KENSINGTON, S.W.,
10TH MARCH, 1903.

SIR,

In reply to your letter of the 4th instant, I am directed to inform you that there is no record of the presentation to this Museum of a portrait of John Kay, or of a model of the Card-setting Machine referred to. There is, however, in the Museum a portrait of John Kay, which was lent by the late Mr. Bennett Woodcroft in 1877, and is now the property of his widow.

There is no *model* of the Card-setting Machine in the Museum, but an actual Machine which was lent by Mr. William Horsfall to the Patent Office Museum in 1860, was transferred to this Museum in 1883.

The Board cannot issue photographs, or allow photographs to be made, of objects in the Museum which belong to private persons, without the written permission of the owners.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
F. R. FOWKE.

JOHN LORD, ESQ.,
Leighs Nurseries,
Elton, Bury, Lancs."

Mr. Bennett Woodcroft was "Great Seal" at the Office of Patents when Sutcliffe was formulating his scheme of procuring Government grants.

The absence of any record of a presentation to South Kensington Museum of a model of a Card-setting Machine

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is remarkable. The explanation may be inferred from the fact that at the time the author received the earlier reply from the Victoria and Albert Museum, an intimation came informing him that in the removals from the old institution at South Kensington, and the alterations made, no model of KAY'S Card-setting Machine was mentioned.

The author received an interesting letter which was dated March 23rd, 1898, from Mrs. Samuel Oram, sister to Mr. James Kenyon, late M.P. for Bury, in which she states:

"The Model of Robert Kay's invention I know was for a long time in possession of my Father-in-Law, but he sent it up to the Museum at South Kensington."

"Veritas," in his *Walks Round Bury*, 1842-3, tells his townsfolk something about the family of Squire Lonsdall.

"Veritas" never wearied in his efforts to portray the beauties of the places round his native town. This extract leads up to the subject of the letter.

"At Overfields once stood a neat old mansion, long since gone to ruin; it was well constructed for utility and usefulness, surrounded by rich pastures and fine meadow land—there were wells of pure water, and the little stream called Whitehead Brook gently ran, in murmuring streams, on each side the beautiful estate. Here was rich garden ground, enclosed for fruit, herbs, and flowers.

"The violets grew in their primitive colours, and rich roses unfolded their fragrance as in some blissful region. Order, propriety, were observed through Squire Londsdall's establishment. The men and maid servants, old and young, who lived at his house fared at his frugal table. Henry Lonsdall, Esq., son of the Squire, had wealth and influence in this town. He

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had five sisters; one married the Rev. Mr. Formby, a second the Rev. Mr. Winder, Curate at St. Mary's [Parish] Church, Bury. The other three sisters married contrary to his will; and he was often scornfully heard to say, one was married to a shuttlemaker *alias* Mr. Kay, another to a gauger *alias* Mr. Sherwood, and a third to a button-maker *alias* Mr. Moss."

"Veritas," further in his narrative written in 1842, says:

"I beg permission to introduce to your notice a few remarks on Mr. Sutcliffe, who has lately published a work on the Earthquake in the Island of Juan Fernandez. Henry Lonsdall, Esq., was great uncle to Mr. Sutcliffe. I should not have mentioned this had I not gone into Crompton's shop a few days ago, where I had handed over to me a lively portrait of Mr. Sutcliffe's grandfather, in his cocked hat. I knew the old gentleman and Mr. Sutcliffe's mother very well. I have often heard his mother pray in the Old Methodist Chapel, Clerke Street; this is nearly fifty years ago."

This evidence from the pen of "Veritas," spontaneous, and entirely free from prejudice, settles the question of doubt as regards the portraits which Lieut.-Col. Sutcliffe put into circulation as a portrait of his great-grandfather; unless Sutcliffe meant to claim for his *grandfather* the honour of having been the inventor of the Fly-Shuttle.

The original of the following letter, which Sutcliffe's stepfather wrote, is still in existence; it exhibits the most remarkable ignorance then prevalent in Sutcliffe's branch of the inventor's descendants, and may serve the purpose of clinching the argument in this chapter—that argument being to prove that wherever Sutcliffe was lacking in correct data his imagination was allowed free scope.

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Frances Kay, the eldest daughter of John Kay the younger, shuttlemaker, and his wife Elizabeth Lonsdall, was three times a widow. Her first husband was John Sutcliffe, a dyer in Salford. Her only child was this Thomas Sutcliffe, born, as he states, May 13th, 1791, in Salford. In 1830 she was the wife of the writer of the following epistle:

"MANCHESTER,

SEPTEMBER 3RD, 1830.

MR. SAMUEL KAY, BURY.

DEAR SIR,

I have been applied to by some Gentlemen who are interested in a new publication that is about to come out to say that Sir Richard Arkwright and his friends claim the merit of the invention of the Fly-Shuttle. I will thank you if you will collect what information you can respecting it and put it me down in writing, the gentleman's name and the year of our Lord that it took place, and when he made his escape and what took place before he went off; and any other particulars that you think interesting. My best respects to Mrs. Kay, Mrs. Oram, and family, Mrs. Salts, &c. Tell the latter that I have got some money ready for her. Frances joins me in very good wishes and

I remain respectfully,

Yours,

P. Mc.CANDLISH."

What the reply from Samuel Kay was has not been preserved. Shortly after this letter was written Frances Mc.Candlish was in her second widowhood; her third husband was John Davenport of Godley Hall. She wrote to her son, then in Juan Fernandez, a letter

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dated from Godley Hall, June 4th, 1835, stating she was then in her 70th year, and signed her name "Frances Davenport." As the wife or widow of John Davenport she was well provided for and lived to a great age; but her wayward son never answered his mother's letter.

What then can be said of the historian, Lieut.-Col. Thomas Sutcliffe? He was a remarkable person in many ways. Of himself he says:

"I had, through the vicissitudes of fortune, to seek a livelihood at sea, from the year 1805, or to reside abroad."

One of his not unfriendly reviewers of the volume *Crusoniana* says:

"Its author, Sutcliffe, has, in the waywardness of his mind given a preference to the life of an alien, rather than experience the monotony of every-day existence at home."

He was bound apprentice to the weaving business at Bolton. Being fond of gunpowder, Sutcliffe who was prohibited having it about the house in which he lodged, surreptitiously hid a quantity in a box-iron. This box-iron when needed for use his landlady took down and inserted a red-hot heater. The effects were disastrous, but happily not fatal. He ran away to escape punishment, and never after settled again to his work at the loom. Returning to his native land in 1839, stranded and in poverty, he turned his talents to the dishonourable purpose of disclaiming his mother's ancestry, as well as that of his father. John Sutcliffe the Salford dyer, of Sutcliffes of the Ing, near Colne, was not to his taste, notwithstanding this same John was his father. Neither was Robert Kay, the owner of Park estate

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good enough, so accordingly an ancestor from Woodsome, county of York, must be assigned to Park. The Lonsdalls and Greenhalghs were acceptable, and were acknowledged, as of truth they were his kinsmen. He adopted as his motto, "Truth *versus* Fiction." The pity is, so little is reliable of what he wrote, while fiction abounds.

Of the Manchester fresco a few words must be said here. There is an error in the description of the mural Painting, No. 10, in the Large Hall of the Manchester Town Hall, by Ford Madox Brown:

"JOHN KAY,
INVENTOR OF THE FLY-SHUTTLE,
A.D. 1753."

Manchester honoured itself by selecting JOHN KAY as worthy of this mural painting to his memory. It must also be acknowledged that the Lord Mayor and City Council showed a genuine interest in the project started at Bury. Sir William Henry Bailey, Knight, took a characteristic and thoughtful part, when he prevailed with the Lord Mayor and his Council to grant permission for one hundred copies of this work of art to be taken, and specially donated to aid the JOHN KAY Memorial Fund at Bury. This fund is to be used for the purposes of providing a Statue at Bury and founding a Scholarship to the memory of the inventor at the celebration of the Bi-centenary of his birth-year. It seems needful to enter a caveat here, for the benefit of all the purchasers of this representation of the mural painting. The sheet given to inquirer descriptive of the original contains an error. "KAY'S son, Robert, a boy

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of about twelve, is depicted cautiously watching the rioters, &c." Now KAY'S son, Robert, was twenty-five years of age in 1753 (*vide* Church Register, and gravestone record). But John, a younger brother, born 1740 (*vide* gravestone), would be thirteen years of age when the mob came to wreck the home of his parents. There was still a younger brother, William.

Having dealt seriatim with the fallacious statements written by Lieut.-Col. Thomas Sutcliffe respecting his great-grandfather the inventor of the Fly-Shuttle, the author's desire is to raise a superstructure upon a truer foundation—a foundation which access to legal documents, public and private records, has enabled him to secure. To know JOHN KAY, to understand his character, and to realise the enormous benefits he has bestowed upon the human race, is a stupendous effort of the imagination nothwithstanding the interval of two hundred years since he was born. "Familiarity breeds contempt," some writer has left on record. Those who since JOHN KAY'S time have lived by manual labour at the loom, and in occupations connected with providing of looms and materials for weaving, may have become indifferent to the subject. This indifference may in a measure be caused through lack of information, for Baines in his *History of Lancashire*, wrote "The worthies of the Parish of Bury have been sufficiently numerous but their biographers have been few."

The hitherto published accounts of JOHN KAY'S life have been not only meagre but lacking in all that is essential to place the facts relating to the inventor's life in true perspective.

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CHAPTER IV.

Documentary Evidence of Descent.

JOHN KAY the inventor of the Fly-Shuttle, was the posthumous son of Robert Kay of Park, Walmersley, in the parish of Bury and county of Lancaster, and his wife Ellin Entwistle of Quarlton, and grandson of Robert Kay, yeoman, of Sheephey in Walmersley in the same parish and county. In the month of February, 1694, Robert Kay of Sheephey, purchased the freehold estate of "Rothwells of the Parke," subsequently known as Park. On August 22nd of that year he made a Final Concord with the vendors of the freehold and the rights pertaining thereto, and on November 2nd of the same year he had grant of lease from the Earl of Derby of Shipperbottom Closes. The documents establishing these facts relating to the "freehold of inheritance" of Park estate by Robert Kay of Sheephey, have been most willingly opened to view by permission of J. Grant Lawson, Esq., M.P., the present owner of the estate. Two of these have been photographed for the author and are included in this volume. To the interest taken in this investigation by Mr. Grant Lawson's agent, Mr. E. H. Scholes, C.E., is owing the completeness of proof of descent of JOHN KAY the inventor, now for the first time placed before the public.

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SHEEPHEY: Residence of ROBERT KAY, Father of the Inventor.

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The documents setting forth the acknowledgment of the last instalment of purchase money paid for Park, gives the origin unmistakably, "Sheephey" in Walmersley. It was witnessed by our old friend Myles Lonsdall. The following letter received by Mr. Statter, deals with the lease of Shipperbottom Closes named in the will of Robert Kay further on:

"Knowsley, Prescot,
February 14th, 1903.

Dear Mr. Statter,

Wth regard to your inquiry about the Kay family I find, from our oldest register of Bury life leases, that a lease [Shipperbottom Closes] was granted on the 2nd Nov^{r} 1694 to Rob^{t} Kay for the lives of

Rob^{t}	... ...	son	... ...	dead
John	... ...	son	... ...	aged 40
Rich^{d}	... ...	son	... ...	aged 35

A further lease was granted 15th August 1744 to Anne Wareing on the lives of

Lessee	... ...	...	...	aged 26
John Kay	... ...	...	...	aged 60
Richard his brother	...	...		aged 54

This lease expired 21st Dec^{r} 1756, and on the 29th Sep^{r} 1757 John Bridge became lessee (in trust); the lives named being

Richard son of Rich^{d} Nangreave	...	...	aged 11
Samuel Wareing Nangreave son of above			aged 9 mos.
Edmund son of James Kay	...	...	aged 2 yrs.

I do not know if the John and Richard named in the first two leases represent the same people, as the ages disagree considerably. Those last mentioned may have been children of the first-named John and Richard.

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Unfortunately we have not the lease of 1694, so cannot tell from where Robert Kay came.

The land is described as 'Moor Ground.'

I shall be pleased to look up anything more you may require regarding this question.

Yours sincerely,

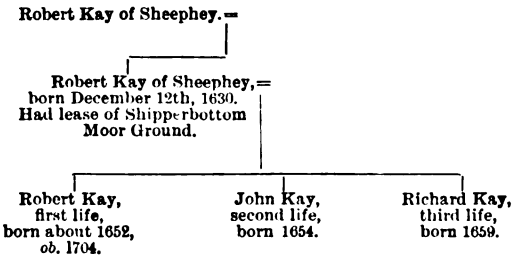
SAM^{L} J. LEE."

This friendly epistle sent to Mr. Statter for the author's use is of considerable value, notwithstanding the absence of the lease and consequent inability to locate the Robert Kay to whom the lease was granted. It will be observed that Robert named in the lease November 2nd, 1694, was entered as the first life departed. This would be Robert Kay of Park, who died about April, 1704, as per will and appraisement of his goods and chattels at Park.

In the Parish Church Register, a record of baptism appears as follows:

"Robert son of Robert Kay of Sheepe-hey 12 Dec̃ 1630."

Amplification of this entry coupled with particulars in the first-named lease of Shipperbottom Closes, will be as follows, and Sheephey will appear by documentary evidence as we proceed.



We have here a succession of three Roberts, which series will continue as our story develops.

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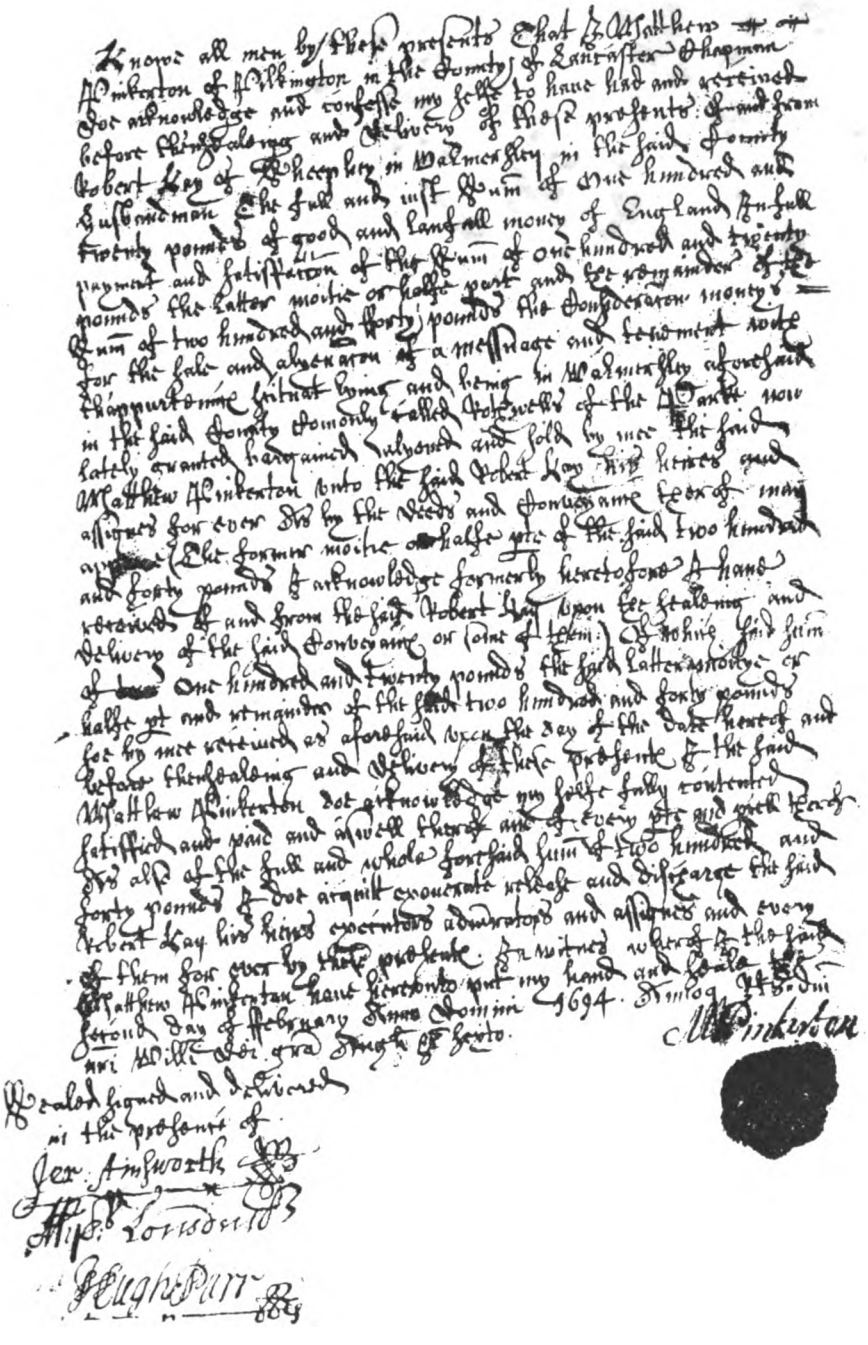

Receipt for Park in 1694.

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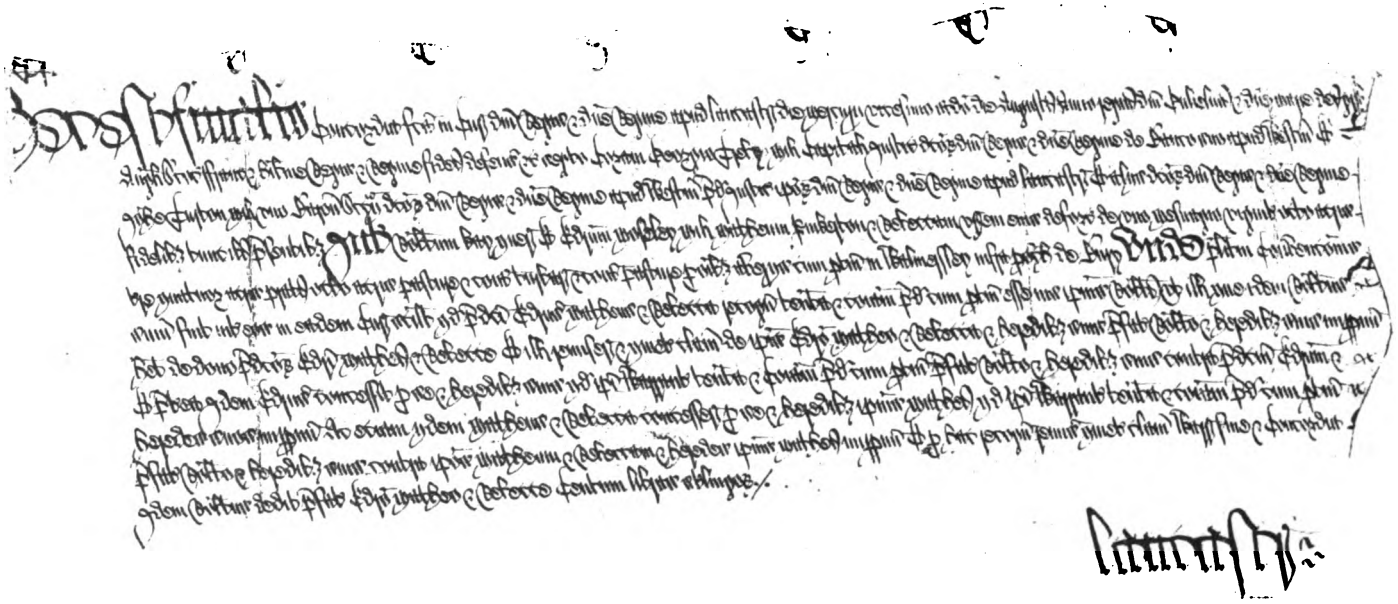

The Indenture made in the Sixth Year of the Reign of William and Mary, 1696.

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Be it known unto all men by these presents that I Richard Kaye of Parke in the County of Lanc: Yeom: have Rec'd & had of and from Robert Kaye of Parke in the sd County Yeom: my Brother the full and just Sum of Forty Pounds of lawfull Money of great Britaine being in full of a Legacy to me given and Bequeathed in & by the last Will & Testam: of Robert Kaye late of Parke aforesd deced and charged vppon all those Lands and Hereditaments comonly called Parke and the Close called Shipplebottom Close of which said Sum of Forty Pounds to me given in the said Testam: being in full Payment and Satisfaction of all Bequests and Legacies I Doe acknowledge my self to be fully Satisfied contented and paid, And doe hereby Acquit, Exonerate, and Discharge the said Robert Kaye his Heirs Executors and Administrators and every of them for the same for ever by these presents. In witness whereof I have hereunto put my Hand and Seale this Fourth Daye of May in the Seventh Yeare of the Raign of our Soveraign Lord George over great Britaine &c: King, Anno Dom: 1721.

Sealed signed and Delivd in presence of.
Mary Kaye
her M Marke
Ric: Rothwell

Richard Kay

Receipt: Richard Kay's Legacy, 1721.

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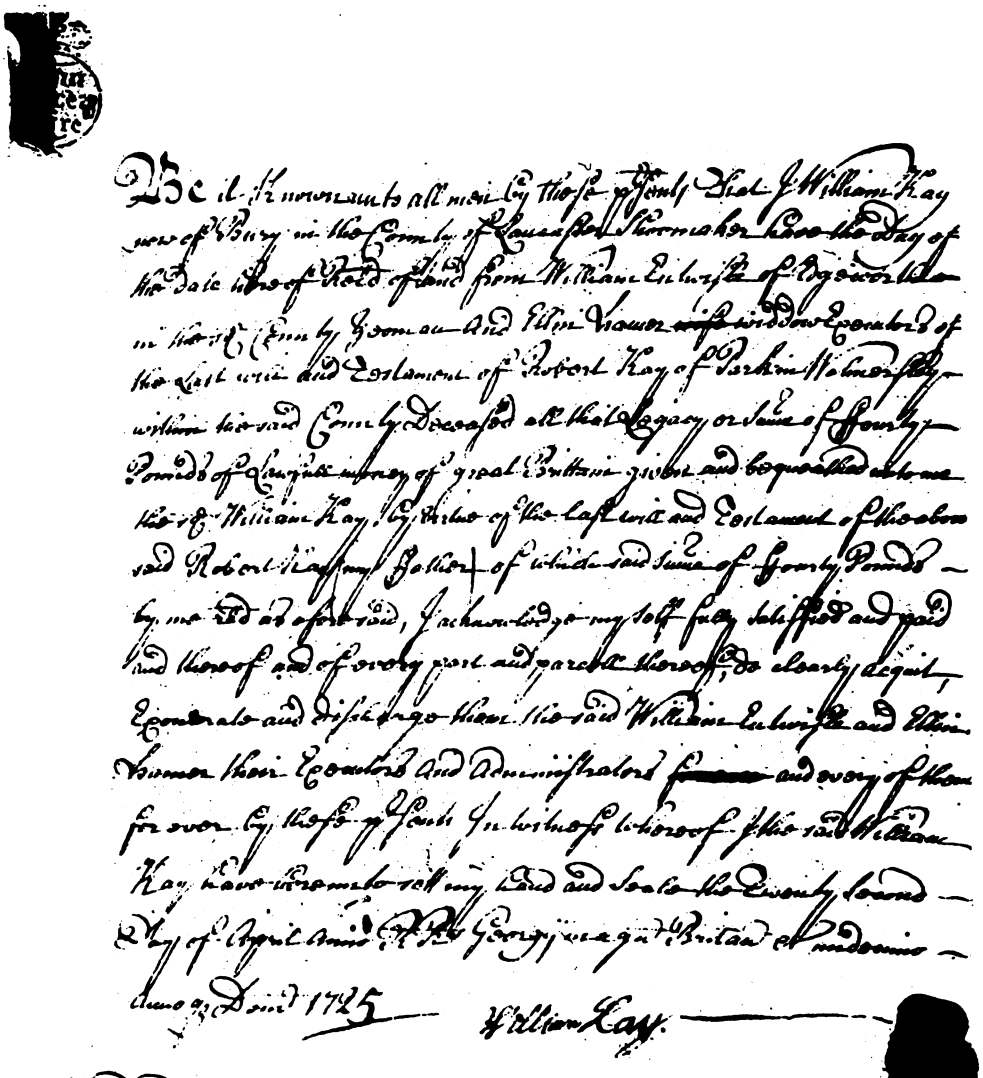

Receipt: William Kay's Legacy, 1725.

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The reproduction of the Receipt for consideration money removes all doubt as to the question of the origin of the family of Kay, settled at "Rothwell's Park," (subsequently named Park when the ownership changed.) It reads as follows:

"Know all men by these presents That I Matthew Pinkerton of Pilkington in the County of Lancaster Chapman Doe acknowledge an confesse my selfe to have had an received before th'n ssealeing and Delivery the s^{d} presents: of and from Robert Kay of Sheephey in Walmersley in the said County husbandman the full and ins^{t} Sum of One hundred and twenty pounds of good and lawfull money of England In full payment and satisfac̃on of the sum of one hundred and twenty pounds the latter moitie or halfe part and the remainder of The Sum of two hundred and fforty pounds the Consideration money for the sale and alyenacon of a messuage and tenement with th'appurten'cies situate lying and being in Walmersley aforesaid in the said County commonly called Rothwells of the Parke now lately c̃anted bargained alyeñed and sold by me the said Matthew Pinkerton unto the said Robert Kay his heires and assignes for ever As by the Deeds and Conveyance thereof may appear (The former moitie or halfe p^{te} of the said two hundred and forty pounds I acknowledge formerly heretofore to have received of and from the said Robert Kay upon the sealing and Delivery of the said Conveyance or some of them) Of which said sum of One hundred and twenty pounds the said latter moitye or halfe p^{te} and remainder of the said two hundred and forty pounds soe by mee received as aforesaid upon the day of the date hereof and before then ssealing and Delivery of these presente I the said Matthew Pinkerton doe acknowledge my selfe fully contented satisfied and paid and aswell through and cf every p^{te} and p^{9}rcell thereof As also of the full and whole foresaid sum of two

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hundred and forty pounds I doe acquitt exonerate release and Discharge the said Robert Kay his heires executors admid-trators and assignes and every of them for ever by these presents. In Witness whereof I the said Matthew Pinkerton have hereunto put my hand and seal the second day of ffebruary Anno Domini 1694

Sealed signed and delivered in the presence of
JER: AINSWORTH
MYLES LONSDALL
HUGH PARR."

M. PINKERTON.

L. S.

On August 6th, of the same year, a Final Concord was executed as set out in the particular indenture here presented. For the better understanding of such a legal instrument the author obtained the best help available. The much abbreviated crabbed court-hand Latin, of which this indenture is an example, proved very interesting to two or three Latin scholars who engaged to decipher it. The following is a transcription in an unabreviated form:

"Haec est Finalis Concordia facta in curia domini regis et dominie reginae apud Lancastrium die Mercurii Vicesimo secundo Augusti anno Regni domini Guilielmi et dominie Mariae Dei gratia Angliae Scotiae Franciae et Hiberniae regis et reginae fidei defensorum etc. Sexto coram Georgio Treby [or Ireby] milite Capitali Justiciaris domini regis et dominae reginae de Banco suo apud Westmonasteriam et Johanne Turton milite uno Baron Scaccarii dictorum domini regis et dominae reginae apud Westmonasterium predicto Justiciano ipsorum domini regis et dominae reginae apud Lancastrium et alïis dictorum domini regis et dominae reginae fidelibus tunc ibi præsentibus Inter Robertum Kay querentum et Edwardum Moseley Militum Mattheum Pinkerton et Rebeccam uxorum eius deforciantes de uno messuagis

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viginta Octo acris terra quatuor acris prati octo acris pasturæ et communia turbarii et communia pasturae pro omnibus aversis cum pertinentiis in Walmersley infra parochiam de Bury Quod placitum conventionis summonitum fuit inter eos in eadem curia scilicet quod praedicti Edwardus Matthew et Rebecca recognoverunt tenementa et communias praedictas cum pertinentiis esse eius ipsius Roberti ut illa quae idem Robertus habet de dono praedictorum Edwardi Matthei et Rebeccae et illae remiserunt et quieta clamavirunt de ipssis Edwardo Mattheo et Rebeccae et heredibus suis praefato Roberto et heredibus suis in perpetuam practerea idem Edwardus concessit pro se et heredibus suis quod ipse warrantirabit tenementa et communiae praedictas cum pertinentiis praefato Roberto et heredibus suis contra praedictum Edwardum et heredes suos in perpetuum ac etiam iidem Matthew et Rebecca concesserunt pro se et heriditus ipsi Matthei quod ipsi warrantirabunt tenementa et communias praedictas cum pertinentiis praefato Roberto et heredibus suis contra ipsos Matthew et Rebeccam et heredes ipsius Matthei in perpetuam et pro hac recognitione remissione quieta clamatione warratiratione fine et concordia idem Robertus dedit praefatio Edwardo Mattheo et Rebeccae centum libras sterlingorum.

Lancastriae."

By the kind assistance of a legal friend the translation of this Latin into plain English is here given, so that all who are unaccustomed to read the ancient tongue may understand the purport of this interesting document:

"**This is the final** Agreement made in the Court of the Lord the King and the Lady the Queen at Lancaster on Wednesday the 22nd day of August in 6th year of the Reign of Lord William and Lady Mary by the Grace of God of England Scotland France and Ireland King and Queen Defenders of the

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faith and so forth [etc.] Before George Treby Knight Chief Justice of the Lord King and Lady Queen's Bench of Westminster and John Turton Knight one of the Barons of Exchequer of the said Lord King and Lady Queen at Westminster aforesaid a Justice of the said Lord and Lady Queen at Lancaster and other faithful subjects of the said Lord King and Lady Queen then and there present **Between** Robert Kay plaintiff and Edward Moseley Knight Matthew Pinkerton and Rebecca his wife Deforecants of one Messuage 28 acres of land 4 acres of meadow 8 acres of pasture and common of turbary and common of pasturage [with the hinterland] with the appurtenances in Walmersley in the parish of Bury Whereupon a plea of Covenants was summoned between them in the same Court to wit That they the said Edward Matthew and Rebecca the tenements and commons aforesaid with the appurtenances to be the right of him Robert as those which the said Robert hath of the gift of the said Edward Matthew and Rebecca and those they have remised and quitted claim from themselves the said Edward Matthew and Rebecca and their heirs to the said Robert and his heirs for ever **And moreover** the said Edward hath granted for himself and his heirs that he will warrant the tenements and commons aforesaid with the appurtenances to the said Robert and his heirs against the said Edward and his heirs for ever And further they the said Matthew and Rebecca have granted for themselves and the heirs of the said Matthew that they will warrant the tenements and commons aforesaid with the appurtenances to the aforesaid Robert and his heirs against themselves Matthew and Rebecca and the heirs of the said Matthew for ever **And** for this acknowledgement Remission Quit Claim Warranty Fine and Agreement the said Robert hath given to the said Edward Matthew and Rebecca One hundred pounds sterling

Lancaster."

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Sufficient evidence has been adduced to show that Robert Kay of Park, was descended from the Sheephey branch of Kays, and that the inventor of the Fly-Shuttle was the grandson of this Robert.

The will of Robert Kay, the inventor's father, is as follows, and was extracted from the Probate Division of Her Majesty's High Court of Justice at Chester. [December 12th, 1898, for J. Lord.]

This is the Last Will and Testament of Robert Kay of Park, 1704.

"**In the Name of God Amen** the twenty-seventh day of March and in the year of our Lord 1704 I Robert Kay of Park in Walmersley in the Parish of Bury and County of Lancaster yeoman being but weak in body yet am sound and perfect in my mind and memory praised be Almighty God for the same do make and ordain this my present last Will and Testament in manner and form following (that is to say) **First** and principally I commend my soul into the Hands of Almighty God hopeing through the Merits death and Passion of my Saviour Jesus Christ to have full and free pardon and forgiveness of all my sins and to inherit everlasting life and my body I committ to the earth to be decently buried at the discresion of my Executors hereafter named **And** as toutching the disposition of such temporall estate as it hath pleased Almighty God to bestow upon me I give and dispose thereof as follows **First** I Will that all my debts and funeral charges be paid and discharged my personal estate going towards the discharging thereof at the discretion of my Executors **And** then I Will that all my estate go together towards the maintenance and education of all my children till my eldest son attain the age of one and twenty years **And** then I give all my lands and hereditaments att Park being my freehold

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inheritance and the Shupplebottom Close which I hold by Indenture of Lease under the Earle of Derby unto Robert my eldest son and his heires for ever excepting the one-half of my such real estate I give to Ellin my Wife during the term of her naturall life or so long as she keeps herself sole and unmarried but if she marry or otherwise miscarry then it is my Will that she have but one-third part of my estate during her life to be in lieu and full satisfaction of her dowre and then after my Wife's desease my whole estate to go to Robert my son **Provided** always that my said son Robert must pay to the rest of my children as they attain the age of one and twenty years the severall sums hereafter mentioned as follows (to witt) **First** I give to Ephraim my second son the sum of thirty pounds charged upon Robert my son to pay him when he attains the age of one and twenty years. **Item** I give and bequeath unto Richard my third son the sum of thirty pounds to receive of Robert my son when he attains the age of one and twenty years **Item** I give and bequeath unto William my fourth son the sum of thirty pounds charged upon Robert my son to pay him when he attains the age of one and twenty years **Item** Whereas my Wife seems to be with child again it is my Will that whether the child prove a son or daughter that my son Robert do pay it thirty pounds when it attains the age of one and twenty years, and if it happen that any of my said younger children do dye before they attain the age of one and twenty years it is my Will that my said son Robert be still charged to pay their said portions to be divided amongst the survivors and remaining part of my younger children he himself receiving no benefitt thereby and if it happen that if Ellin my Wife do dye before any of my children do attain the age of eighteen years **Then** it is my Will that Robert my son does pay yearly the severall sums towards the maintenance of my younger children hereafter mentioned as now follows (to witt) **I Will** that he pay to Richard my son the sum of twenty

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shillings yearly till he be eighteen years of age Item I Will that Robert my son do pay to William forty shillings a year towards his maintenance till he be eighteen years of age Item I Will that if the infant which is yett to bear do live after my said son Robert be one and twenty years of age that he pay it forty shillings a year till it be eighteen years of age but when any of these my youngest children do dye then it is my Will that my said son Robert be not still charged to pay their said yearly payments And if it happen that my said son Robert do dye without issue of his body lawfully begotten then it is my Will that all my lands tenements and hereditaments aforesaid do fall and go to my eldest son then living he paying the severall and respective sums above mentioned or as many of them as are then unpaid Item I give to Robert my son all the seeling the great table and the fire irons And I do nominate and appoint Ellin my Wife and William Entwisle my brother-in-law to be joynt Executors to this my last Will hopeing they will faithfully execute the same as my trust is in them reposed allowing my said brother-in-law every year a tree where he pleases till my eldest son be one and twenty years of age excepting any that grows near the house And I commit the ordering and tuition of my children unto Ellin my Wife till they be fourteen years of age except she marry and then I commit them to my said brother-in-law till the age aforesaid Item it is my Will that my said Executors be carefull in looking to the preserving all the younger timber and trees the best that they can for the use and behoof of Robert my son And this I declare to [be] my last Will and Testament In Witness whereof I publish this accordingly putting my hand and Seal hereunto the day and year above written.

ROBERT KAY.

L. S.

Sealed signed and published by the said Robert Kay as his last Will and Testament in the presence of us

JAMES KAY
ALICE KAY
RICHARDE KAYE."

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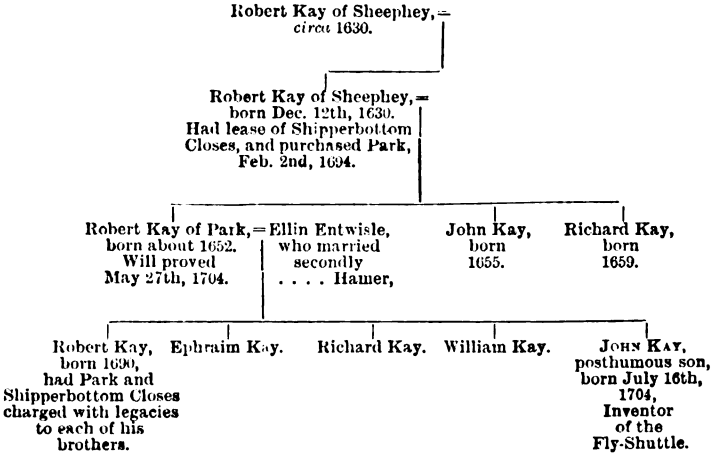
"A true and perfect Inventorye of all the Goods Cattle and Chattles of Robert Kay of Walmersley in the Parish of Bury and county of Lancaster Yeom. deceased pryzed the eighteenth day of Aprill Anno domini 1704 by us viz[t] William Entwisle Gent. of Quarlton and County aforesaid Yeoman and James Kay and Jeremiah Kay of Walmersley aforesaid and County aforesaid Yeom. as followeth [Total Amount £82 13s. 6d.]:

Appras[d] by us JEREMIAH KAY his mark
WILLIAM ENTWISLE
JAMES KAY

Proved in the Consistory Court of Chester the 27 May 1704."

It is interesting to state here that in the "Inventorye" referred to above, there is not a single item with the remotest reference to any wool spinning, or weaving, having been carried on at Park or elsewhere. The eldest son was made heir to the estate and to all property; paying the younger sons legacies in money as they attained the age of twenty-one years respectively.

The following brings us to an interesting point, *i.e.:* to the appearance of the posthumous child, who became an inventor of note and is the subject of this memoir.


Robert Kay of Sheephey, circa 1630.
Robert Kay of Sheephey, born Dec. 12th, 1630. Had lease of Shipperbottom Closes, and purchased Park, Feb. 2nd, 1694.
Robert Kay of Park, born about 1652. Will proved May 27th, 1704.
Ellin Entwisle, who married secondly . . . . Hamer,
John Kay, born 1655.
Richard Kay, born 1659.
Robert Kay, born 1690, had Park and Shipperbottom Closes charged with legacies to each of his brothers.
Ephraim Kay.
Richard Kay.
William Kay.
JOHN KAY, posthumous son, born July 16th, 1704, Inventor of the Fly-Shuttle.

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The two documents which are receipts for legacies were given by the sons, Richard and William. The amount each received was ten pounds in excess of the legacies bequeathed to them respectively in their father's will. The natural inference is that Ephraim did not attain the age of twenty-one years. Another interesting discovery is made namely, that Ellin, their mother, had married again before her two youngest children became of age. It was as Ellin Hamer she received the release from her son William, and probably JOHN (whose release was not found amongst the papers and deeds which the author examined. It is clear that Richard, William, and JOHN, had Ephraim's portion divided equally among them, share and share alike, making forty pounds each. William and JOHN were married on the same day. JOHN was just under the age of twenty-one years. Evidently there was strong fraternal feeling between them. There is a document extant referring to the tuition of the three sons, Richard, William, and JOHN. The author secured a copy of the document some years ago. It is of great interest and will be found on a succeeding page.

Robert Kay of Sheephey, the grandfather of the inventor, was fully alive to the natural beauties of the spot he fixed upon for his future home. In that charming volume by the Rev. W. Hume Elliott, *The County and Church of the "Cheeryble Brothers,"* we find a description of the country from the pen of one whom Charles Dickens has immortalized. Writing to a friend, about the year 1837, and describing their early journeying, William Grant says:

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"As we passed along the old road, we stopped for a short time on the Park estate to view the Valley. My father exclaimed, 'What a beautiful Valley! May God Almighty bless it! It reminds me of Speyside, but the Irwell is not so large as the river Spey.'"

He also wrote in the same letter:

"In 1827 we purchased the Park estate, and erected a monument to commemorate my father's first visit to this Valley, and on the very spot where he and I stood admiring the beautiful scene below."

This was the estate which the inventor's grandfather purchased in 1694, and which his descendants, Robert after Robert, for four or five generations owned for the space of 133 years. Grant's Tower may be ever remembered so long as one stone remains to mark the spot, as the hill upon which JOHN KAY in his contemplative moods would dream of his future mechanical victories.

Over the door of his late father's house, and the home of his youth, was placed an engraved stone tablet bearing the following letters and year, with the inscription:

K. R. A.,
Anno Domini 1725.
Enter in at the Door,
Call upon the Lord;
Seek unto him while
he may be found.

This Robert Kay was the inventor's eldest brother. He married Ann . . . . . and lived to a ripe old age. His will was dated September 14th, 1777, and probate granted May 15th, 1780. To this Will one John Holt was

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a witness, and he in all probability was the father of Ann the wife of the inventor, who was the posthumous brother of the testator. The character of this Robert, the inventor's eldest brother, is to be inferred from the tablet. The family of this Robert and Ann—a most pious couple—consisted of one son, Robert, sole executor of his father's will and heir of Park estates, and four daughters. Ellin the eldest, possibly namesake of her grandmother; Betty, Rachel, and Alice. Ellin married John Nuttall, "Top of Lee;" Betty became the wife of John Taylor; Rachel married James Haworth (Cobhouse?); Alice the youngest, married a John Kay.

The second diarist, Richard Kay of Baldingstone, writes in his diary:

"1742 Sep^{r} 20—This day, in the afternoon waited on Mother to Coz. Robert Kay of Park, being invited there to the rearing (as we call it) of his two new houses and Barn he hath built at Park."

The same diarist writing about Thomas Kay of Banklane, states:

"His grandfather and my grandmother were brother and sister, both of Sheephey."

We know the second diarist died in 1751, and have his recorded visit to the "house rearing" at Park in 1742, which his "coz." Robert had built. Hence it is plainly seen that Robert Kay who purchased Park in 1694, was brother to the wife of Richard Kay of Baldingstone grandfather to the second diarist.

The letter, pp. 63-64 *ante*, was followed by a second note which Mr. Statter forwarded to the author, and in

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it Mr. Lee suggested that if further information was needed the author was welcome to go over to Knowsley Hall, and examine for himself such old data as might be found of use. This privilege the author promptly accepted, but nothing of interest more definite could be found in his quest of an older date than 1694.

At Sheephey an old stone bears the following:

"K. J., Anno Domini 1725."

These initials have not been identified. It has been made very clear that the Park Kays were the Sheephey branch of Kays, and closely related to the family resident at Baldingstone in 1690.

The fact that the first name in the old lease book at Knowsley notes that Robert is dead, points to the death of the inventor's father in 1704, who in his will mentions his wife Ellin, *née* Entwisle, and her brother William as guardians and trustees of and for his five children: Robert, Ephraim, Richard, William, and posthumous John. These were all minors when their father made his will and died in 1704.

Robert Kay married Ellin Entwisle of Quarlton, and he left the education of his children in his wife's care, but should she marry then her brother William was to have the direction of the education of all who had not attained the age of fourteen. He left each child £30, but if any child should die before attaining the age of twenty-one years, then the surviving children (excepting the eldest Robert, who had Park and Shipperbottom left to him charged with these legacies), they are to have the share of the deceased brother divided equally amongst them—Robert not to benefit.

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It appears from the following two documents that Ephraim did not live to receive his legacy, for we find Richard and William each received £40.

"Release to Executors of Will of Robert Kay of Park, ob. 1704.

"Be it known unto all men by these presents that I Richard Kay of Parke in the County of Lanc^{t} yeom̃ have Rec̃d and had of and from Robert Kaye of Parke in the s^{d} County yeom̃ (my Brother) the full and just sum of fforty pounds of lawfull money of great Britaine being in full of a Legacy to me given and Bequeathed in and by the last Will and Testament of Robert Kaye late of Parke afforesd deceased and charged uppon all those lands and Heriditaments com̃only called Parke and the Closes called Shipplebottom Closes of which said sum of fforty Pounds to me given in the said Testament being in full Payment and satisfaction of all Bequests and Legacies I Doe acknowledge my self to be fully satisfied contented and paid. And doe hereby Acquit Exonerate and Discharge the said Robert Kaye his Heirs Executors and Administrators and every of them for the same for ever by these presents. In witness whereof I have hereunto put my hand and seal the ffourth Day of May in the seventh year of the Reign of our Soveraign Lord George over great Britaine &c. King, An̄o Dom̃: 1721

RICHARD KAY.

Sealed signed and Deliverd in presence of
MARY KAYE her-*m*-marke
RIC. ROTHWELL."

L S.

From the foregoing document we may conclude that Richard, the third son of Robert Kay of Park, deceased in 1704, had taken a farm or was assisting his brother Robert, for both are described as yeomen.

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The next release indicates changes in this family:

"**Release given by William Kay** fourth son named in the Will of Robert Kay of Park deceased in 1704.

"**Be it known** unto all men by these p^{s}sents That I William Kay now of Bury in the County of Lancaster Shoemaker have the Day of the Date hereof Rec^{d} of and from William Entwisle of Edgeworth in the s^{d} County Yeoman And Ellin Hamer widdow Executors of the last Will and Testament of Robert Kay of Park in Walmersley within the said County Deceased all that Legacy or sum of ffourty Pounds of Lawfull money of great Brittain given and bequeathed unto me the s^{d} William Kay by virtue of the last will and Testament of the above said Robert Kay (my ffather) of which said sum of ffourty Pounds by me rec^{d} as aforesaid I acknowledge myself fully satisfied and paid thereof and of every part and parcell thereof, Do hereby acquit exonerate and discharge them the said William Entwisle and Ellin Hamer their Executors and Administrators and every of them for ever by these p^{s}sents In Witness whereof I the said William Kay have hereunto sett my hand and Seal the Twenty-second Day of April Anno R. Ri Georgij maja Britain et un Decimo Anno Dom̃ 1725

WILLIAM KAY.

Sealed signed in the p^{s}sence of
RICHARD LOMAX
CORNELIUS HARTLEY."

Here we see the widow of Robert Kay deceased in 1704, has married one . . . . Hamer, and was again a widow in 1725. William had been put to shoemaking and JOHN to shuttle making. It is remarkable that JOHN'S release for his £40 is wanting in the

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bundle of old deeds the author was permitted to examine.

The Bury Parish Church Register records the baptism of the elder brother and heir in the year 1690, and Ephraim in 1697; the dates for Richard and William could not be found. Richard's release is given as 1721, hence the inference is justifiable that he was born about 1699 or 1700. William received his legacy in 1725, hence we may assume he was born about 1703. JOHN the posthumous son, was born July 16th, 1704.

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CHAPTER V.

RECORDS OF MARRIAGES, CHRISTENINGS, AND BURIALS.

THE author made a most exhaustive search of the Registers of the Bury Parish Church and of other churches in the neighbourhood of Bury and Walmersley, for references to the various branches of the Kays. The particulars of Marriages, Christenings, and Burials given in this chapter were obtained chiefly from the Bury Parish Church Registers.

Marriages.

Richard Kay and Eliz Ormerod, Nov 10 1724
William Kay and Mary Booth, June 29 1725
JOHN KAY and Anne Holt, June 29 1725

These are identified as marriage records of three sons of Robert Kay of Park, *vide* Robert Kay's Will of 1704, and "Letters of Tuition," 1720.

Robert Kay and Elizabeth Rawstron, May 10 1748
Lettice Kay and John Fletcher, Oct. 4 1748

The above are identified as the marriage records of a son and daughter of JOHN KAY the inventor.

Christenings.

Robert son of Robert Kay of Sheepe-hey 12th Decr 1630
Margarett dau. of Robert Kay of Shepe-hey 19 May 1664

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This Robert, born 1630, was father of Margarett, christened 1664, who was born after the third son mentioned in the lease granted him on the lives of his three sons, Robert 1652, John 1655, and Richard 1659.

If any other children were born to him they are not distinguishable in the Register. Robert Kay, born 1652, made his will in 1704, and the first son christened was born at Sheephey.

Robert son of Robert Kay, 28 Sep^{r} 1690
Ephraim son of Robert Kay de Park 7 May 1697
Richard son of Robert Kay [see Tuition] born 1700
William son of Robert Kay [see Tuition] born 1701
JOHN SON OF ROBERT KAY, PARK, BORN 16 JULY 1704
Elizab dau. of Robert Kay, Park, born 30 Jany 1723
Lettice dau. of JOHN KAY, born 11 July 1726
Robert son of JOHN KAY, born 3 July 1728
Betty dau of William Kay shoemaker 29 Nov. 1730
Ann dau. of JOHN KAY, reedmaker, 15 June 1730
Samuel son of JOHN KAY, Edenfield Reg^{r} born Sep^{r} 5 bap^{d} 29 1731
Alice dau. of Robert Kay, Park, 31 April 1733
Richard son of William Kay, Shoemaker, 22 July 1732
Ann dau. of William Kay, Shoemaker, Bury, 9 April 1734
Robert son of Robert Kay, Park, 19 July 1736
Lucy dau. of JOHN KAY, of Bury, reedmaker, 26 July 1736
James son of JOHN KAY, reedmaker, of Bury, 15 July 1738
John son of JOHN KAY [Gravestone] born 1740
Alice dau. of JOHN KAY, Shuttlemaker, born 31 Apl 1741
Sarah dau. of William Kay, Shoemaker, Bury, born 30 May, 1741
Shuse dau. of JOHN KAY, shuttlemaker, born 14 Aug 1743
William son of JOHN KAY, reedmaker, born 14 July 1745

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In the old family bible, Samuel son of JOHN KAY is entered "born 1729," and another, "Alice" daughter of JOHN KAY is found in the Church Register, from which list, as above inclusive, twelve children are shown to have been born to JOHN KAY the inventor. Of the children, if any, of William Kay born before 1730 or after 1741, no records have been seen by the author.

Burials.

"1783 Nov. 29th William son of Robt Kay was here Buried aged 18 years. 1792 Jany 27th Betty Wife of Robt Kay was here Buried aged 66 years. Robt Kay died Decr 29th 1802 aged 76 years. Samuel Kay died March 12th 1830 aged 66."

There is an original letter in existence written by the above Samuel Kay to his sister, Dorothy Barlow, telling her that her father died December 28th, 1802, at 4 o'clock in the morning.

"In Memory of Thomas Fletcher, Reed Maker, who died Decr 13 1837 aged 76. Also of Robert, Helen, and Thos the children of Matthew and Elizabeth Fletcher who died in their infancy. Lettice the Wife of John Fletcher who departed this Life June 30th 1811 aged 87 years."

This is the gravestone record of the burial of the grandmother of Dr. Matthew Fletcher, named with his wife Elizabeth in preceding record. In the above record of the age of Lettice there is an error. She was christened in 1726, and was the first child born to the inventor, who was married in 1725. Hence her age in 1811 could only have been 85 years.

"Here resteth the Body of John Salt, Attorney-at-Law, who was interred on the 13th Day of Decr in the Year of our Lord

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1803 Aged 28 Years. Also Richmal Salt his Wife and the Daughter of John and Elizabeth Kay of Bury who departed this Life on the 23rd Day of December 1847 in the 78th year of her age. Also Mary ye Daughter of John Kay died April 16 1771 age 3 years. Also Samuel ye son of John Kay died Feby 23rd 1772 Aged 8 months. Also Elizabeth ye Daughter of John Kay died December 24th 1774 aged 8 months."

The above Richmal was sister to the infants, Mary, Samuel, and Elizabeth, above recorded.

"Here Resteth the body of John son of John Greenhalgh of Brandlesome Esq. who departed this life ye 3rd and was here interred ye . . of July in the year of our Lord God 1693.

Here youth is brought by death to dust,
Whom Christ will raise up with the just.

[*On the same stone.*]

In Memory of John Kay who departed this Life the . . Sepr 1791 aged 51 years. Also Elizabeth Relict of the said John Kay who departed this Life June 30th 1813 in the 77th year of her age."

The above John Kay was the ninth child of the inventor of the Fly-Shuttle, and his wife was Elizabeth, the daughter of Myles Lonsdall. These are the whole of the gravestone records relating to the inventor's family to be found in the Bury Parish Churchyard.

Reference having been made to traditionary reports that the Kays of Park were related to the Kays of Cobhouse, the following gravestone records may be worth placing here. When it is further noted that the Parish Church Registers of Bury were not begun till about A.D. 1590, this record may stand for one of the earliest.

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"Here lyeth Dorithie Kay of Cobbas who dyed the 16th of January 1688 aged 94. Here resteth the Body of Elizabeth wife of Robert Kay late of Cobhouse who departed this Life ye 18th day of november 1709 in the 85th year of her age. Likewise the Body of William Kay their son who departed this Life the 15th day of January Anno Dom. 1717 And in the 73 year of his age. Also here is laid the remains of Robert Kay of Cobhouse who died Feby 4th 1800 aged 78 years."

We find on this gravestone the records indicating five generations of Kays of Cobhouse. The husband of Dorothy was William Kay, and their marriage is recorded in Bury Parish Church Registers in 1616. Elizabeth was wife of Robert, their son. William was the son of this Robert, and the last Robert was grandson of this last William. This last Robert is named in his grandmother's will, proved 1738, and was the only son of her deceased son William, the eldest son who predeceased his mother, but whose share of Cobbas was bequeathed to this last Robert. He had three children Robert, Ellen, and Mary. Ellen was married to Robert Shepherd, yeoman, of Sales Farm, Pimhole, Bury; their daughter Mary, married Samuel Kay, hat manufacturer, Wash Lane, Bury, named amongst the collateral descendants of the Kays of Sheephey and Park family. At last, if not at the first, these families were connected.

The house at Sheephey shown in the illustration, is situate nearly half-a-mile north of Stubbins station, and for several centuries anterior to the inventor's time was in the occupation of families of Kays.

The Bury Parish Church Registers commence about A.D. 1590, when we find one of the earliest records

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as given previously, the "burial of the wife of Thomas Kay de Sheepehey, November 28th, 1591." Amongst the earliest weddings we find "Robert Kay cū x^{o} November 5th, 1594;" and "Thomas Kay cū x^{o} September 30th, 1595." Unfortunately very few of the records of weddings contain any topographical reference. Among the baptismal records it may be noticed that families which are specially noteworthy are particularised. "Bodingstone" is the first place mentioned in 1598. Then we find "Shutleworthe," "tuchrode," at long intervals. "Thomas Kay of Sheephey, buried a child March 11th, 1591-2." "A sonne of Thomas Kay, Sheephey, buried February 20th, 1597-8." There are no other burials recorded as of Sheephey until 1617. In this year the "burial of Mary, dau. of Edmund Kay of Sheephey, on the 14 Jvnij," is recorded. The following year, 1618, "Thomas Kay of Sheephey, was buried on August 21st." Then we come to the year 1627[8] when "the w: of Roberte Kaie of Sheepey," is recorded as "buried on the 19th Februarij." There is no printed record of Robert Kaie marrying again up to 1646, in the Registers; but we have record of a baptism in 1630, as given in previous extract, "Robert, son of Robert Kay of Sheephey, 12th Decem^{r}." This record suggests the thought that the Robert Kay, whose wife died in February, 1627[8] must have been married at some other church than that of St. Mary's, Bury Parish Church.

It has been stated that the wife of the first Richard Kay who was settled at Baldingstone, was probably a sister of the Robert Kay who purchased the Park estate in 1694. She was living, a widow, in 1711.

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The "Diarists" of Baldingstone make references to their relatives of Sheephey and of Park. When it is considered that the first and second "Diarists" include the period from 1700 to 1750, or thereabouts, we have evidence to justify our conclusions that these three branches of Kays were closely intermarried. In their family relationships the Hamer family are also close connections. Not only are the Sheephey Kays very closely connected with the Hamers of Buckden, but we have evidence of the mother of the inventor, JOHN KAY, having become the wife of a Hamer. Record of her second marriage has not been discovered, but the release for one legacy, set out in page 78, is sufficient to establish that fact. The year 1725, named in the release, was an eventful one in her family. It was the year of the double wedding of her sons, William and John, and very probably the year of winding-up the trust reposed in her and her brother, William, by her husband in his Will of 1704.

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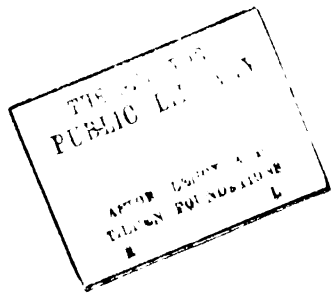

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PARK: The Birthplace of JOHN KAY.

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CHAPTER VI.

JOHN KAY, INVENTOR OF THE FLY-SHUTTLE.

THE early life of JOHN KAY is shrouded in almost impenetrable mystery. Canon Raines, in 1830, attempted to solve some of the questions as to who, and what kind of a man the inventor was. A century had passed since the first public record of the inventor's whereabouts and work. In his search the Canon was fortunate in meeting with a great-grand-daughter of Robert Kay, the elder son of the inventor, and although there seems great confusion in the record Canon Raines has left to posterity, there remain some clues that may guide the inquirer in sifting the statements made by other writers. In Woodcroft's record we find it stated that JOHN KAY was educated abroad. This version is possibly derived from Lieut.-Col. Thomas Sutcliffe (page 40.) Others have repeated this statement. The author in his desire to ascertain the real facts made searching investigations as to the fortunes of the inventor on his approach to man's estate. These investigations resulted in obtaining a copy of the following "Letters of Tuition," granted to William Entwisle and James Brandwood. The first-named being executor and trustee under the Will of the inventor's father.

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"Letters of Tuition"

"**Noverint Universi** per p^{s}sentes nos Gulielmum Entwisle de Edgeworth in Com Lanciæ Yeom Jacobum Brandwood de Entwisle in Com præd Gen et Josm Doe teneriet firmiter obligari rendo in Christo patri et Dom Dom Francisco permissione divina Cestriente Episcopo in ducentis libris bon et legalis monetæ magnæ Britanniæ solvend eid prendo patri aut suo certo attum vel succeporibus suis adqua quid solucoñem bene et fideliter faciend obligamus nos et quemlivet nostru p se pro toto ett en solid hered el'es et adm'es mos &c. nostru firmiter p p'sentes Sigillis nris Sigillat dat primo die mensis Novembris Anne Domini 1720.

"**The** condition of this obligation is such that if William Entwisle above bounden do vertuously educate and bring up in learning Richard Kay a minor of the age of 20 years or thereabouts Will^{m} Kay a minor of y^{e} age of 19 years and JOHN KAY a minor of y^{e} age of 17 years having good rights credits and chells left to them by ye last Will or Iñry of Eliz: Kay their late grandmother deceas'd or otherwise **And** all the goods rights credits chattles porc̃ons and dues whatsoever which are or shall become due to the said minors by any lawfull means whatsov^{r} do set forth and imploy to the best advantage and profit of the s^{d} minors and all lawful suits and causes whatsoever do prosecute solicite and follow when and as often as need shall so require according to the effect of "Letters of Tuition" to him in that behalf granted **And** further do pay or cause to be paid unto y^{e} s^{d} minors all goods rights credits chattls porc̃ons and dues whatsoever or the first value of them with full increase thereof at such time and times as they shall come to age fortune to marry or otherwise lawfully demand y^{e} same or at such time and times as by y^{e} direc̃on of the above named Rever^{d} Father his Vicar General or other Judge competent in that behalf shall be

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limited and appointed **And** in the mean do find and keep or cause the s[d] minors to be found and kept with sufficient meat drink lodging apparel and all other necessarys whatsoever **And** moreover do not only render and make a true and just account of and upon the premises but also surrender the s[d] "Letters of Tuition" to be made void and cancelled to all intents and purposes into the s[d] Reverend Father his Vicar Generall or other Judge competent in that behalf when and as often as hee shall be thereunto lawfully called or required **And** finally do at all times hereafter save and keep harmless the s[d] Rev[d] Father his Vicar General and all other his Officers and Ministers for and concerning the granting of the s[d] "Letters of Tuition" **Then** this obligation to be void or else the same to remain effectual in the law.

WILLIAM × ENTWISLE his mark L. S.

JA: BRANDWOOD L. S.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of

JOHN PARRY
JOHN COWPER

"Tuition granted by the Consistory Court of Chester on the 1st November 1720. [Under the Bond of £200: for faithful execution thereof]."

These "Letters of Tuition" are pleasant reading when we regard the circumstances of the three young men at Park. Their grandfather had settled the real estate upon Robert, their elder brother. Ephraim had evidently predeceased his grandmother Elizabeth, and the legacy

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bequeathed to him remained to be divided between Richard, William, and JOHN, making their portions, as previously shown, £40 each. The grandmother's bequests further enriched them considerably, as will be seen from the tenor of the document just set forth. The author has been guided purely by the documents inserted, from photographs of the original receipts for legacies received under the father's Will of 1704; the order of the names of the survivors, and the ages given to each in the absence of baptismal records in the Parish Church Registers, and considers this is convincing evidence that the "three minors" benefitting by their grandmother's estate, are the three younger sons of Robert Kay of Park, who died in 1704. From what has been here advanced there is nothing to show that any of the money at command of their trustee, for the benefit of the younger sons of Robert Kay of Park (Will 1704); or derived from this testator's mother's estate under these "Letters of Tuition," was expended in having the youths "educated abroad." No one has produced any evidence of the slightest value in support of it. When the provisions made in the father's Will, for "the child that was to bear" are considered, and the position of the family generally is recognised, there does not appear much ground to support the statement that a foreign education was possible. The only reference to the education of the inventor that the author has met with, which has any support from family tradition, is found in the record by Canon Raines, who wrote:

"Miss Whitehead informed me [1850] that JOHN KAY, the Inventor of the Fly-Shuttle, was a man of irregular habits but

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with a mechanical genius and some talent. He married the youngest daughter of Miles Lonsdale, of Field House, Esq., much against the wishes of her brother [Henry] Lawyer Lonsdale, who was a magistrate, and always opposed to Kay, who, being very unpopular among the mechanics and weavers of Bury, went to France; some said that he found it necessary to escape in a sack, which others disbelieve, nor is it likely that the French Government should have patronised him, which is reported in Bury. He was born at Park, 3 miles from Bury, and 2 from Edenfield, on the road side; and from one to two miles from Cobhouse; being sprung from a collateral branch of the latter family. In early life he was apprenticed to a Reedmaker; but returned home after a month's servitude, saying, with some arrogance, that he knew the business as well as his master.

"It is thought that he died in France, but he came to Bury after his expatriation dressed in the French fashion, and was esteemed a Fop; being called long afterwards 'Frenchman Kay.' All his children lived in Bury after his death, except a daughter who became a Papist, and entered a convent in France, and the family heard nothing of her afterwards.

"Mrs. Kay was afterwards obliged to keep a Linen Draper's Shop in the Market Place in Bury, where she lived in 1774, but whether her husband was with her at that time is not remembered. He neglected her very much, and Miss Whitehead knew her in 1780. The marriage had been clandestine, and was much beneath the Lonsdales, although she and her sisters had small fortunes, not more than £200. Kay had a son who was an ingenious man and invented a machine for making cards; *i.e.*, to cut the wire, perforate the leather, &c.

"The Kays of Park were Jacobites, which term was explained by saying they were High Churchmen in Religion, and Radical Reformers in Politics."

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It is plainly to be seen in this record by Canon Raines, that he mixed up the incidents in the life of JOHN KAY the father, with the domestic life of John Kay the son. JOHN KAY, the father, married Anne Holte, and while residing at Park, in 1733, obtained his patent for the Fly-Shuttle, &c. John Kay, the son, was not born till about 1740, and married about 1763-4, Elizabeth Lonsdall, who was born in 1737. She was not "the youngest daughter" as is clear from the previous records. Frances, their eldest daughter, was born about 1767. It was the inventor's son John, who obtained the name "Frenchman Kay." This description of the son by Canon Raines is confirmation of the identity of the portraits (where the three-cornered hat and French garb are in evidence), and these were as "Veritas" described them, portraits of John Kay the son, who married Elizabeth Lonsdall (page 57.) It may also be taken as a mistake on the part of Canon Raines, where he put down JOHN KAY as "a man of irregular habits." It is quite clear from the context that the son of the inventor is meant. However we attempt to explain the confusion the Canon has made in his record received from Miss Whitehead, it is very evident the father's case of expulsion in 1753, is mixed up with the son's fortune. In 1754, the son would probably not have left school.

The Canon's explanatory note as to the topography of Park, must be read as meant to describe Park as it is now, that is since the Bury to Haslingden new turnpike road was formed, and not as in the time of the inventor. The new road severed the Park estates into

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two portions. It was probably the condition of the country side before the new road was made, which so enchanted the Grants, both father and son. Climbing the hill side from the old road they reached the table land on the "Hoof," or "Hough" portion of the Park estate, and viewed Park homestead well surrounded by trees, at the foot of the "brae," with the then clear flowing Irwell close by.

The reference to the origin of the family is as misleading as the traditions in other families of Walmersley Kays, as for instance, the Kays of Baldingstone. In this family the tradition prevails that they spring from the Cobbas Kays. The author procured a copy of probate of the oldest Will of any Kay preserved at the Consistory Court at Chester, to enable him to examine into the question of descent. The Will proved to be that of Robert Kay of Cobbas, who died in 1612. It is very remarkable that coincident exactly with the period, in which the inventor's father is proved (by documents reproduced in this memoir) to have been domiciled at Park, there was a Robert Kay of Cobhouse, named in the Will of 1612, and he was endowed under his father's Will with a considerable portion of the Cobhouse estate at that time. Hence the tradition Canon Raines makes note of must antedate the year 1550.

Then we read, "In early life he was apprenticed to a reedmaker." Not one word about his education abroad. This omission is important, when it is remembered that the informant to whom Canon Raines was indebted for his notes, represented the descendants of the inventor's eldest son, Robert.

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There is no evidence definite, beyond the inventor's letter to the Society for the Encouragement of Arts and Manufactures, that JOHN KAY the elder, ever returned to England after 1753. That he might possibly be in Bury, in 1764, when his eldest son, Robert, wrote to the above-named society is not disputed by the author, notwithstanding Sutcliffe alleges that the inventor died in Paris, in 1762 (page 45.)

Canon Raines states that "Mrs. Kay was afterwards obliged to keep a linen draper's shop, in the Market Place, in Bury, but whether her husband was with her at that time is not remembered." The true account of this "Mrs. Kay" is that she was the wife of the younger John Kay. He died in 1791. His gravestone record has been given. In the first Directory of Bury tradespeople Mrs. Kay's name is given as "Betty Kay."

In the illustration of Old Fleet Street, the house of "Frenchman Kay" is shown. It is the half of the structure of which the other half was the "Old Grey Mare." The present tall lamp facing Peel's monument in the Old Market Place at Bury, stands close by the old pump well which was the water supply to this John Kay and to his descendants, who continued in the tenancy of the house in Old Fleet Street for many years. It should be said of the children of John Kay, the son of the inventor, that they all made very good marriages and hence must have been highly respected in Bury.

The entanglements of the threads in which the story of the inventor's life was bound have been at times most perplexing, and have only been unravelled after years of patient research. The apparent want of

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correct information amongst his own descendants is strikingly manifest. In dealing with Lieut.-Col. Sutcliffe's statements we have subjected them to the strongest test that recorded facts can supply. Little wonder then that outsiders should err when descendants have so erroneously strayed. Respecting Canon Raines there is one further comment which should be made. Whether from diffidence or any other cause we cannot say, but his informant, Miss Whitehead, can scarcely be supposed to have intended to convey to the Canon the impression that she was unaware of the fact that it was her own ancestor who was part inventor, along with his father, of the card-setting machine. Undoubtedly one thing is certain, that in transcribing the notes which he had taken of Miss Whitehead's information, Canon Raines mixed the families of JOHN KAY the inventor, and of John Kay the inventor's son. Having cleared away all fiction "the Truth" stands out to aid the inquiring mind. By its aid the life of JOHN KAY will be seen in its true proportion, and it will be singled out as one worthy of respect and of emulation.

JOHN was only a reedmaker—a yeoman's son, of Walmersley. A youth who had never known a father's love,—a dreamy yet self-confident youth. We may well smooth over the alleged "arrogance;" for he had thoroughly grasped the nature of the work before him and was destined to revolutionise the antiquated methods then in vogue. His mother and his uncle William were his guardians. Of his brothers we know that Robert, the eldest, had taken to himself a wife, and also possession of his heritage. Ephraim was probably a young

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man of feeble health. Richard's eyes turned towards Haslingden, while William, the next brother to JOHN, was evidently contentedly following the trade of shoe-making, to which he was apprenticed. It may have been in the case of JOHN, that persuasion gained the day, and this "arrogance" or restlessness, was merely the shadow over his life for the time being indicative of coming events. Imagine him, anxiously looking about for something more to his mind than cane reed-splits. The Reed in a loom to this day retains the name derived from the cane reed, which formerly was the only available material for the warp threads to pass through, and which pressed the shoots of weft as the shuttle shot from side to side. Reeds were the young man's first efforts. To improve upon the construction of Reeds was among the young man's first efforts. In these attempts he was singularly successful and adopted dents of thin polished blades of metal in place of cane splits. Suffice it to say that JOHN KAY was the first maker of Wire Reeds.

Upon his confidence to earn a livelihood in making these improved Reeds he married. His Reeds were to be better than any others. They were to be KAY'S Reeds. He married in 1725, Anne, the daughter of John Holte, probably a near neighbour, and set up housekeeping at Park. Dwell a moment in thought of the country side about his home. No railways, few coaches. The hand-looms all round the district needing his Reeds, if only wit could be put into the heads of the old weavers to use them. Scarcely twenty-one years old, he made a determined start. Summer and

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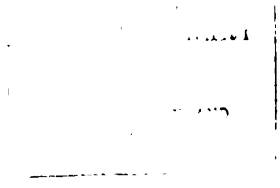

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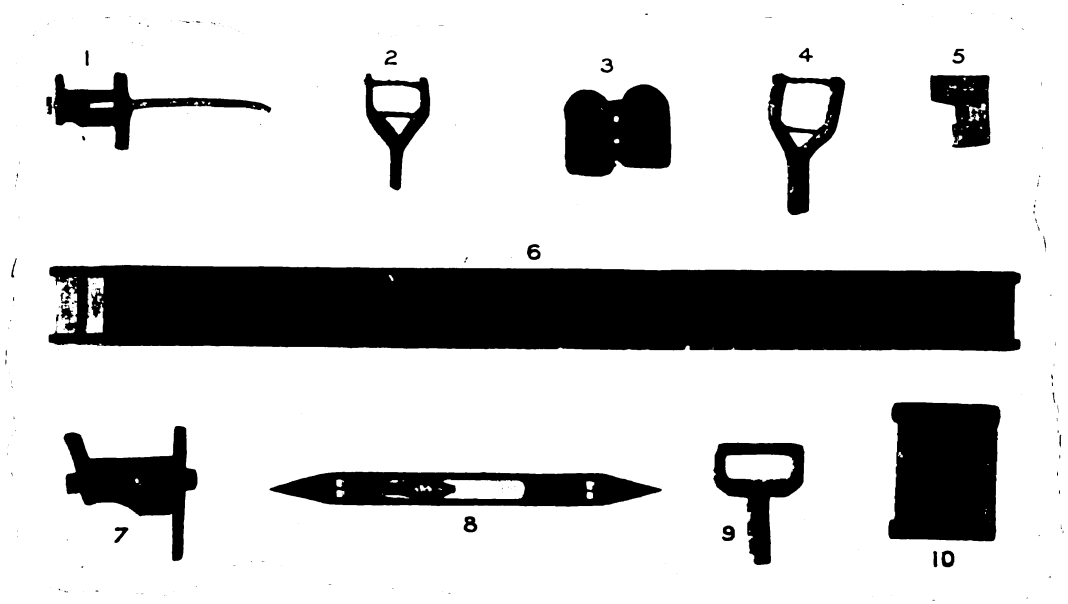

FLY-SHUTTLE, REEDS, and PICKERS invented by JOHN KAY.

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winter, his Reeds were to be carried to farmsteads or hamlets, for miles round. He faced his life's work with fortitude, knowing that if once his Reeds were tried approval would follow. Probably by pack-horse or pony he conveyed his Reeds to his customers, up the hills and over the moors, to wherever his patrons dwelt.

What did well for his neighbours would also be welcomed in the south. We can imagine he went to Colchester, a great weaving centre. His association with Colchester is assumed rather than proven. There has not been found a single record of him or his family being domiciled in Colchester, during the whole seven years of his life assigned to him there. However that may have been, a man as shrewd as our inventor would not hesitate undertaking the labour involved in journeying to Colchester from time to time. Assuming he took these journeys, his best way would be by coach to Liverpool, and thence by a coasting boat to his destination. It has been clearly shown that he made his home at Bury. Reeds furnished his home-keep, and back to that home his steps were ever bent. Still working and dreaming of higher things to accomplish, he would probably pass hours away on the hills and amongst the woodland which his father had planted round the homestead at Park.

His Wheel-Shuttle possibly was his next effort. The idea was to fix a dummy hand at each end of the loom-slay, so adjusted as to do what the hands of men did, for two men were needed at the broader looms. These "hands" or substitutes for hands, came to be called "pickers." The illustration here given has seven

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of these "KAY'S hands." The various shapes and sizes should be observed. The smallest is still in vogue where silk hand-looms are in work. The largest two are used in some parts where heavy cloths are woven by hand, but all of them are or have been in use. The differing sizes and shapes required when JOHN KAY doubled the product of each loom, were probably greater than here shown. It was the "odd man" dispensed with who became JOHN KAY'S future antagonist.

What his experience had been at Colchester from time to time, was also repeated amongst the Yorkshire weavers. His Reeds readily found a market. They were like a gift to the far-sighted Yorkshire man. But KAY'S Fly-Shuttle was the rub! One weaver would buy and try the Shuttle, another would try and then buy. Probably numbers of others bought it. These weavers would be known to each other by meeting in the Cloth Halls in Yorkshire towns. They would use the Shuttle and defy the man from Lancashire to do his worst. It is told us, and probably might be confirmed if we were to examine the Court pleadings, that JOHN KAY'S experience in Leeds resulted in a great loss. The statement of historians that JOHN KAY resided for seven years at Leeds, is not borne out by documentary matter to which the author had access.

His home still remained at Bury. The evidence on this point cannot be denied in face of the records given. What weary miles the poor dejected man must have walked between Leeds, probably by way of Halifax, and his moorland home at Park. The few lines that we have which are ascribed to him, ring with a pathos all

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their own, and tell of the wearying heart-ache he suffered. Then we are told that from 1745 to 1753 he remained at Bury, whereas JOHN KAY'S home was at Bury from the time of his marriage in 1725, till his home was ransacked by the mob in 1753. The Patent Office and the Parish Church Registers agree on this point, and no other reliable evidence can be adduced to disprove those records.

Let it be remembered that Sutcliffe's fictitious father of the inventor, JOHN KAY, lived to the year 1727 (*see* pages 46-48.) The evidence adduced in the foregoing pages proves that the father of JOHN KAY died two months before the inventor was born (in 1704.) The life of this Lancashire worthy commands our respectful sympathy. His genius, in its simplicity, and the marvellous revolution it has effected, overpower the thoughtful mind. Summed up what a lesson KAY'S life gives us of "man's inhumanity to man," as witnessed in 1753, in the case of this poor hunted benefactor of his kind. To-day, a symphony to his memory hums round the planet wherever the loom-shed stands. Each loom-shed is a testimonial to his genius. Proprietors of looms since 1800, owe a great measure of their prosperity in life to JOHN KAY of Park.

There stands in the Bury Market Place a statue commemorative of a great man. He had a great father before him who determined that his son should be educated for a statesman's work. It was that far-seeing young man at Park, Walmersley, near Bury, who made possible the vast wealth which the family of Chamber Hall amassed? But what of the inventor, his tragic end,

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and his life forgotten? Succeeding generations of his native town were absent-minded regarding him and his fate for a century and a half, while families came into Bury and made untold wealth by those means which he applied to increase the quantity and improve the quality of the work upon which the incomers prospered. This leads one to reflect and to moralise.

The family to whose great son Bury erected a statue in 1852, did not disdain being under obligations to the son of our great inventor even in money dealings. Bury was not always blessed with bankers. Once on a time Robert Kay, the eldest son of our Lancashire worthy, JOHN KAY, had the profitable pleasure of discounting a bill for the firm of "Mr. Robert Peel & Co." The discovery of this entry among the incidents recorded in the family history came as a treat to at least one of the natives of Bury. Contrast the position of the son, Robert, at such a time with the treatment meted out to his father by the infuriated mob and by an unappreciative populace. Happily the erection of the promised statue to the memory of JOHN KAY, and the establishment of a system of scholarships to be known as the "JOHN KAY Scholarships," will testify that at last there is some desire to make amends for a negligence of too long standing.

JOHN KAY of Park, knew and was proud of his Walmersley forefathers. From Park only did he date his inventions. Bury then is the town which rightly claims JOHN KAY as one of its own children, and as one worthy to be held in high regard by all who read of his devotion to duty, of his mechanical inventions, and of his deplorably sad end.

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The author feels that in dealing with the life of JOHN KAY, he has had in hand a precious old picture almost rendered impossible of recognition by the layer upon layer of varnish of questionable quality. The task of renovation has been a long one. Every coat of varnish has been carefully dealt with in order that the lights and shades of the picture might not suffer in his hands. The shadows were deep and needed delicate treatment as the process of renovation advanced. The sunlight glimpses seldom pierced the gloom, but here and there the needle point of truth cleared away effectually the specks which defaced the ensemble of our pen portrait. After all it must be confessed that the result falls short of his ideal of the original. All that we can say about the end of JOHN KAY must be the outcome of reasoning by the aid of experiences which are universal.

An active personality like JOHN KAY'S would rust away if compelled to an exile's existence, and sorrow would work its ravages in a nature such as his. JOHN KAY'S love of home and children, his thoughts of his younger ones—arrived at ages varying from ten to fifteen years—would be mingled with hopes and fears. His wife and the elder ones of his family would doubtless find means of communicating with him in his latter days, but likely enough his spirit was broken and well it might be. His youngest son was bent on leaving his father in exile, while Ann, his daughter and companion, disheartened and inclined to give up further struggle with a hapless fate and unwilling to add more cares to an already stricken mother and numerous family, was desirous of entering

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some sympathetic home or convent. JOHN KAY stricken with age and sorrow would weary of life and wear away, leaving his remains so far as can be conjectured to be laid in a foreign soil, a victim to his native country's hardness of heart and base ingratitude.

JOHN KAY'S Fly-Shuttle had long been free to be used by all the world. Its inventor was but a poor down-trodden man whose origin none cared about and whose end few could spare time to give a thought to. Yet his life's work was not in vain. If the man who makes possible the growth of two blades of grass where only one had grown was a benefactor to his race, what less can be said of JOHN KAY of Park, who made the way for one man at the loom to do the work of two, and to do that work more effectively than it had ever been done before. By thus doubling the labour available his invention proved a blessing to mankind.

From time to time for a number of years statements have been circulated that the burial place of Bury's "Lancashire worthy," JOHN KAY, was likely to be discovered. Only spasmodic efforts have been made to this end. The author's most recent information was that JOHN KAY was traced from one locality in France to another, until the years of his pilgrimage had increased to three score years and ten. This brings the mind to contemplate the inventor in active pursuit of his life's work up to 1774. At this time, supposing the information credible, his Shuttle had been freely used throughout the world for about a quarter of a century, and his sons and grandsons were carrying on a profitable business in their native town and there acquiring wealth.

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His son, Robert, was then a wealthy townsman, and the aged inventor could have lived in peace in his native Walmersley, where his relatives in the main line at Park were conducting prosperous trades and selling Shuttles far and wide.

The author's experience has been that where there is a will there is a way to get at the facts sought for, and the way has been found by which the facts will follow if undue cost and French methods of registration are not unsurmountable.

There are hereditary considerations which the author cannot ignore which pronounce against the longevity claimed. These added to the rankling heart-sore consequent on the treatment of the man by his persecuting and ungrateful countrymen, make it hard to put faith in the unpublished documentary evidence said to exist, that JOHN KAY survived to the age of seventy years. That he should have survived for twelve years the date given as his death, and not a line to appear in the whole mass of family papers which the author has had through his hands and thoroughly examined is past understanding. The author was anxious to challenge the production of all so-called documentary evidence. As a matter of public interest the demand ought to be felt incumbent upon anyone to produce all the evidence hitherto obtained as to the life-work of JOHN KAY, whether it relates to a lengthened life compared with published statements, or to his death. The statement, as of fact, that he was last heard of as in or about his seventieth year and starting a factory, or filling a factory with machinery in France, seems incongruous. He only

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claimed during his known life to be an inventor of Reeds, Shuttles, and Card Setters.

In the year 1774, the inventions of Hargreaves and others in regard to spinning were to the fore. This "old age question" seems as romantic as the descriptions of JOHN KAY'S commencement in life given by the earlier historians. For lack of verification it must be set aside as unworthy of acceptation.

Of JOHN KAY'S descendants it may be said the pride of ancestry survives to this day. His tenacity of purpose; his delight in application of the principles mastered by him throughout his varied career; his pardonable pride and faith in the accomplishment of all his aims, are characteristic of those who are proud of their lineage derived from him.

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Lancaster.

Rob

Parish of Kays.

Richard Kay.—Elizabeth . . . . died at Loe, Sunday, Feb. 25th, 1710.
First Diarist wrote: "My grandmother died at Loe, Sunday, 25th Feb., 1710."
Gravestone is in Bury Parish Churchyard.

Robert ldingstone, b. May, 1697.

John, living 1706.

William—Sarah, died Dec. 27th, 1738.
died 1714.

* son of Robert K
born "at Sheephey,
‡ Bought Park Estate
§ Leased Shipperbott
* *Bury Parish Ch*
‡ *See Final*
§ *Lord Derb*

d Kay —Mary, dau. of Richard Hampson, of Bury, married at Bury, Jan. 18th, 1704-5. He was a Cloth Manufacturer in Bury.
gstone, 31.
cozen phey." am.

Robt. Kay, Surgeon, Baldingstone.—Eliz. Taylor, of Moston.

John Kay, Goosford, born 1687, died 1734.

Robert Kay, of Park, near Bury, County of Lancaster, born at Sheephey, 1651-2, died at Park, April, 1704. Bequeathed to son Robert: Park, and Shipperbottom Closes

Thomas Kay, ldingstone, h, 1710-11, 7th, 1772, esham. th son.—Anne, dau. of Ralph Royle, Esq., Manchester.

Richd. Kay, born Mar. 20th, 1715, died Oct. 21st, 1751.
Second Diarist:—died S. P.

Robert Kay, of Park, Bury, County of Lancaster, born at Sheephey, Sept. 28th, 1690. Had Park Estate and Lease of Shipperbottom Lease expired in 1744. Died in March, 1780. Will dated March 14th, 1777, and Proved May 15th, 1780.

Ellen Kay, born at Park, married John Nuttall, of Top o'th' Lees.

Anne Kay. Had her father's one-fourth part of Copyhold, called Holcomehead, and also from John and Robert, her brothers, £100 each.

Richmal Kay, born 1790, and christened May 6th, 1 died April 11th, 17 aged 6 years 11 mon *vide* gravestone. Third life in Robert Kay's Lea of 1791.

John Kay,—Mary Ellen Whittle.
plate Worker, olton Street, Bury, living 1903.

Robert Kay,—Lydia Bentley.
Pattern Maker, Frank Street, Bury, living 1903.

Mary Kay, died young.

This Chart, *compiled by* JOHN LORD, is based upon Wills dated in 1704, 1780, 1788, 1806, and 1817; Deeds and Leases of Park and Shipperbottom Closes; and Church and Chapel Registers.

Deed conveying Park Estate, dated March 31st, 1827, was executed by Molly Kay, widow, of Park; Thomas and John Kay, Grocers, Bury; Elizabeth and Mary Ann Kay of Bury, spinsters; and Richard Kay, Grocer, of the same place; children of John and Molly Kay: recites—

"**Whereas** Robt. Kay formerly of Redvales late brother of the said John Kay (husband of Molly Kay) being seized or well entitled to the Park Estate and by his last Will and Testament dated March 24th, 1788, did give and bequeath all his estates to John Nuttall and (Rev.) John Smith upon Trust that they should convey all such estates to such of the Testator's brothers John and Richard, John being intended to have the first offer of them subject to paying Richard one moiety of the value of the whole, &c."

Molly and children sold the Estates to Grant Brothers.

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CHAPTER VII.

The Inventions of John Kay.

BENNETT WOODCROFT, Great Seal at the Patent Office, was at one period in high position in the Office of Patents, London. The author obtained some information from a very highly respected and influential gentleman in the mechanical world who was personally acquainted with Mr. Woodcroft. This gentleman believed that Lieut.-Col. Sutcliffe had discussed with Mr. Woodcroft the subject matter of some of his pamphlets. In Mr. Woodcroft's *Brief Biographies of Inventors of Machines for Manufacture of Textile Fabrics*, there is discoverable some inkling as to the source whence he derived this information. Mr. Woodcroft wrote:

"John Kay was born at the Park, Walmersley, near Bury, in Lancashire, on the 16th July, 1704. He was educated abroad. His genius for mechanical inventions was exhibited early in life. On his return to England a woollen manufactory at Colchester belonging to his father was placed under his charge, to which he added the business of engineer and machinist."

It has been already shown that the inventor was apprenticed to a Reedmaker at home, and that his father died before the birth of his son John. Ten shillings yearly was the only provision for the son's education, and the education was considered complete

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when the boy attained the age of fourteen. The provision for his up-bringing was only the modest sum of forty shillings a year, and on attaining the age of eighteen he was supposed to be able to earn his own livelihood. As stated in the fourth chapter of this volume (page 76), JOHN KAY was entitled to the sum of £30 on arriving at the age of twenty-one. Touching upon this matter the reader's attention is directed to the copies of the Releases set forth on pages 77 and 78, and to the facsimiles of the same contained in this volume.

It has been shown how preposterous is the statement that the inventor's father had a woollen manufactory at Colchester. The claims of the eldest sons who could have given the most likely help at Colchester, were ignored by the historian who supplied Bennett Woodcroft with the groundwork of his biography. The inventor's father was as his Will exhibits (pages 69-71), a simple yeoman of Walmersley, who left a family of very young children, and dying several months before his youngest son, the inventor, was born, left his estate in trust to his wife, Ellin, and her brother, William. Difficult is the task of overtaking errors which have gained a hold in the guise of truth on the public mind.

Mr. Woodcroft gives no clue to his source of information that the inventor "was educated abroad." What may be the reason for the statement is not very clear. If Mr. Woodcroft meant to convey the impression that JOHN KAY was sent abroad and there received a superior education, it is not supported by evidence in anything handed down to posterity. If meant to imply that his family were poor and were recipients of the aid

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afforded by some charitable institution abroad, there might be found some evidence in support of that theory.

As the record has come down to the present day, it remains to be dealt with in the light of the new discoveries set out in the earlier part of this volume. The conclusion arrived at by the author is that neither as to the foreign education, nor as to the charge of the works at Colchester, have we the least evidence to rely upon that these statements apply to JOHN KAY of the Park, Walmersley, near Bury, Lancashire, the inventor of the Fly-Shuttle. Then we read:

"It is noted that he introduced at this time [*i.e.*, on his return to England] various improvements in dressing, batting, and carding machinery, as well as the Dutch drawboy and inkle [broad tape] looms that had been brought from abroad by his father."

To this the rejoinder is:

1st. There is nothing known amongst his descendants about the inventor having ever followed any other occupation but that of Reedmaker. Before he arrived at the age of twenty-one he married as was shown.

2nd. His father appears to have lived a brief life at Sheephey and the Park, and doubtless knew no more about a drawboy or broad tape loom than he did of Colchester. Having the facts before us as given in the earlier portion of this book, is it likely that the charge of the Woollen manufactory at Colchester would wait for the coming of age of this posthumous son, when he had a brother, heir to the estates of his father, following a yeoman's life at home?

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We come upon firmer ground when we watch the inventor busy at his new Reeds. The illustration in this book shows a cane or "reed" Reed and a portion of an Iron Reed. It must be kept in mind that JOHN KAY was a Reedmaker and that he set up business on his own account as a Reedmaker. Until he was able to produce as good a flat wire-dented Reed as the old cane or "reed" Reed he no doubt kept on with the old material and by the old method.

It may be assumed that JOHN was too short of funds to warrant him incurring the cost of patenting his new Reeds. He worked hard for two years at these new Reeds, and probably besides maintaining his home he saved a little money. In 1728, he found himself with a house, wife, and two little ones, Lettice and Robert.

Still JOHN KAY plodded on at Park, and in two years more he felt inclined to secure the improvements he had effected in the needful yarn for separating the dents in his Wire Reeds. Under the guise of "tailor's thread and twisting mohair by improved methods," we find him applying for and obtaining Letters Patent in the year 1730. Under the title of Reedmaker there is every probability he constructed these machines for preparing reed-twine. He would also construct the Reedmaker's flattening, filing, and polishing benches, with the roller houses and file frames adjusted, and also the Reed setting frame. JOHN KAY would find the rollers to be the most costly portion of his plant. A hundred years ago, even double the fortune which was left to the inventor would not enable him to purchase more than three or four pairs of rollers, large enough

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diameter and of durable temper, with appliances to adjust the intense pressure needful to enable him to produce the very thin dents to replace the ancient "reed" splits. Out of this venture, secure of success, he no doubt obtained some capital. He was wise enough to know that he had so far improved the loom as to obtain from it cloth which was almost perfect. Having improved the quality JOHN KAY was anxious to increase the output of the loom. He bent his energies in that direction, and in two or three years he had conquered all obstacles and given to the world his "dummy" hand and Fly-Shuttle.

Mr. Woodcroft wrote:

"From very early ages the loom has been a well-known machine; the mummy cloth of Egypt, the tent-cloth of the nomadic races, and the woven-wind or fibrous muslins of the Indian ladies were produced by its aid. In this loom the shuttle was cast through the warp from side to side, being thrown by one hand and caught by the other alternately; and each weft thread was driven home by the 'layer,' actuated by the hand which had just cast the shuttle; except in broad-cloths, where a weaver stood on each side of the warp and the shuttle was thrown alternately from one to another.

"This slow and imperfect process was performed for upwards of five thousand years, by millions of skilled workmen, without any improvement being made to expedite the operation, until the year 1733, when JOHN KAY invented the race-board fixed to the 'layer' under the warp, with a shuttle-box at each end, a spindle and picker [dummy hand] in each box, and a cord passing from each picker to a short lever held in the weaver's right hand.

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"He also improved the shuttle and adapted it to the improved 'layer.' Although these improvements did not dispense with the use of the weaver's hands and feet in forming cloth, they enabled one hand to be used exclusively to throw the shuttle, whilst the other was used solely to drive home the weft.

"From the speed at which the shuttle could now be thrown and cloth formed, this world-famed invention obtained the name of the Fly-Shuttle.

"It is probable that no division of labour ever produced results equal to those obtained by this invention. By these great improvements in the reed and the other parts of the loom more than double the quantity of cloth, of a better quality, could be produced by each workman, and with less labour than by the old mode of weaving.

"The produce of the hand-wheel, the only method of spinning then in use, fell far short of the weavers' wants. A yarn famine followed. A powerful stimulus was thus given to the inventive talent of the whole manufacturing community to devise a more mechanical and expeditious mode of spinning yarn."

It will be readily understood by the most casual observer that JOHN KAY'S inspirations were the cause of all the active labours of Hargreaves, Crompton, and others, in their inventions of spinning machinery. Mr. Woodcroft wrote:

"But it was soon found that there was no royal road to invention. That faculty is a gift bestowed on few minds. Notwithstanding the urgent necessity for spinning machinery, and notwithstanding the number of minds employed on the subject, nearly forty years elapsed before hand-spinning gave place to machine spinning."

Mr. Woodcroft then returns to the subject of his biography in these terms:

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"Great opposition was made by the weavers of Spitalfields and Colchester to the introduction of the Fly-Shuttle; so much so that Kay gave up his concern at Colchester and removed to Leeds, where he commenced business, in 1738, as an Engineer."

There is a wearisomeness about all these errors. JOHN KAY was living at Park 1730-1738, and in the latter year applied for and obtained Letters Patent for his Wind Mill, &c., as JOHN KAY of Bury. Records of children born to him at Park during that period have already been given (page 81.) Mr. Woodcroft next refers to the doings of the Shuttle Clubs, and reference made to the lawsuits in connection with the infringement of KAY'S patent by members of these clubs. Mr. Woodcroft then proceeds:

"Respecting KAY's carding and spinning machinery which he had invented he was obliged to consign the spinning machines to the workhouses of Leeds and Burstall (Birstall) where they were used by the inmates."

No explanation is given as to what became of the "Carding" machinery. No other writer dealt with these inventions, the "Carding and the Spinning machines." Supposing they had been patented in 1730, the patent had expired in 1745. Moreover the card-making model was only saved from destruction by the mob which in 1753 destroyed what they could find in JOHN KAY'S house in Bury, the card-setter being in the house of his son Robert. When the mob was busy destroying all they could Mr. Woodcroft says:

"The model of the spinning machine was saved at the time by Mr. Earnshaw who subsequently destroyed it; but the machine which KAY had invented for making wire-cards happening to be

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in his son Robert's possession, was fortunately preserved, and is now in the Patent Museum at South Kensington."

On page 55 will be found a letter dealing with this statement and setting forth the views of the South Kensington authorities on the question of the model.

On page 45 of this volume reference was made to Lieut.-Col. Sutcliffe's "Testimonial," which he printed in 1847. Sutcliffe therein states that "JOHN KAY died in Paris in 1762." We find that Mr. Bennett Woodcroft states:

"In the year 1764 Mr. JOHN KAY wrote a letter to the Society of Arts and Manufactures in which he says:

"'I have a great many more inventions than what I have given in; and the reason that I have not put them forward is the bad treatment that I had from woollen and cotton factories, in different parts of England, twenty years ago; and then I applied to Parliament, and they would not assist me in my affairs, which obliged me to go abroad to get money to pay my debts and support my family.'"

This letter carries the thoughts back to 1744-5, when JOHN KAY had found the Yorkshire weavers in a state of combination against him. The foregoing letter must have been sent to the society early in January. Mr. Woodcroft continues:

"On the 6th of February in the same year, Robert addressed a letter to the Society of Arts and Manufactures, relative to his father's wheel-shuttle (most probably with a view of obtaining a pecuniary reward for this ingenious invention). This communication was referred on the 19th of April, 1764, by a Committee of Mechanics to Mr. Thomas Moore, of Chiswell Street, to make a trial of."

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"On the 19th September, 1764, the Society received a letter from MR. KAY himself, relative to the matter, and this communication was sent to the Committee of Manufactures, and at its meeting on the 4th December, 1765, the report from Mr. Moore was made, and the Secretary was instructed to acquaint MR. KAY that 'the Society does not know any person who understands the manner of using his shuttle, and asking for further instructions concerning it.'"

It should be borne in mind that this communication had reference to JOHN KAY'S Wheel-Shuttle patented in 1733, and the success of which device was the cause of the mob coming to Bury twenty years after (1753), to destroy JOHN KAY'S home, and if by any possible chance to make an end of the inventor also.

The Society of Arts and Manufactures was a remarkable society. Its leaders and members were of the "Rip Van Winkle" type. Its work was as misleading as the title of the society. Consider that a period of thirty-two years had elapsed since the Letters Patent were granted to the inventor of the Wheel-Shuttle. Remember that eighteen years after the expiration of the patent, when all the weavers in England were using the Fly-Shuttle in one shape or another, that this Society of Arts and Manufactures could not find anyone who "understands the manner of using" the Wheel-Shuttle. Surely here we have a glimpse into the past which enlightens us as to the short distance which then intervened between the sublime and the ridiculous.

In a previous chapter (page 49), it will be noted that

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we had been informed that the inventor's brother, William, was one of the founders of this society.

That the real William was busy learning his trade as shoemaker, and "stuck to his last" in after life bespeaks a higher type of intelligence than that evinced by the members of the Society of Arts and Manufactures. Mr. Bennett Woodcroft gives a quotation very circumstantially and without unfortunately giving us any clue as to its origin. It runs thus:

"KAY now (1765) sought refuge in France, where he commenced business in 'the use of the horse callender, and by machines for carding and spinning cotton, which were smuggled out of this country by Mr. Holker.'"

Mr. Woodcroft continued:

"He returned to England (1766) by the advice of the British Ambassador at Paris, who encouraged him to hope for some reward from the Government for the incalculable benefits he had bestowed upon the nation by his inventions. His application not being listened to, the hopelessly crushed engineer returned to France, where he died; and, to the disgrace of his countrymen, in obscurity and poverty; and not a stone tells where he lies. His daughter, the companion of his misfortunes and last days, was shortly afterwards driven to seek refuge in a nunnery."

It is impossible to pass over the latter portion of this paragraph from Mr. Woodcroft's narrative, without contrasting the ignorance betrayed by the Society of Arts and Manufactures with the estimate formed by the British Ambassador at Paris, as to the "incalculable benefits JOHN KAY had bestowed upon the nation by his inventions." It is further a subject for sad reflection

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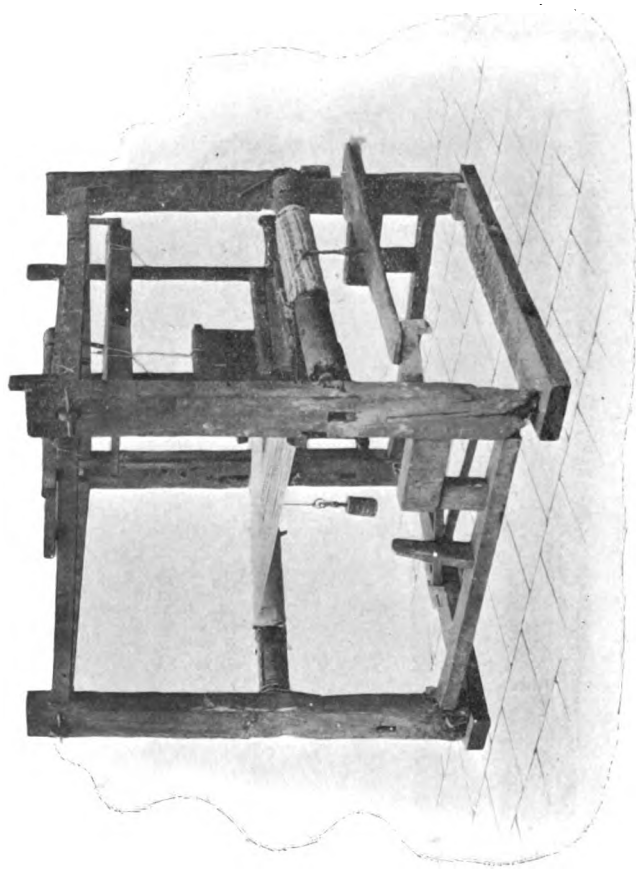

Old Silk Loom.

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to have the foregoing account of the inventor returning to France as an alien in 1767, when at that time his family were in good positions in Bury. His eldest son, Robert, was certainly prospering in life and was then in the very prime of manhood—nearly forty years of age.

There were other sons besides the younger son, John, who having ceased to accompany his father abroad had settled down in Bury and married the daughter of Squire Lonsdall. Robert was carrying on the Shuttle and Reed business and continued to do so for many years after. It may be asked, why did the family not induce the veteran inventor to come home to Bury and there rest in peace? This question may never be answered. His youngest son, William, would have been twenty-two years old at the time his father elected to return to France. Probably all his children except the devoted Ann had left their parents' roof, and it may also have been the case that his dear wife had passed on to her rest. Many of those details may never be cleared up. If the hearthstone at the inventor's home in Bury were lonesome, Ann, his cherished daughter and housekeeper, in their foreign home would naturally feel reluctant to come back to be a burden upon any of her sisters or brothers.

JOHN KAY'S improvements to the old hand-loom have never been superseded. At the present day they are the very essentials of all looms which are actuated by power, and of which there are hundreds of thousands the world over. Millions upon millions of pounds sterling of capital must now be employed in the various productions of silk,

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cotton, linen, and woollen. JOHN KAY then was the FOUNDER of the first great improvements in the manufacture of cloth, by which employment is now given to an incalculable number of people.

To commemorate his memory a happy thought one day crossed the minds of the late Mr. Robert Hall, and of his son, Mr. Samuel Hall, of Hope Foundry, Bury. That thought was beautifully embodied in a sculptured stone effigy intended to represent JOHN KAY. The figure adorns the gabled front of the offices in Foundry Street, Bury.

JOHN KAY'S contrivance of two dummy-hands gave each weaver facilities at the loom as if he had four hands at work. The variety of dummy-hands in the illustration is limited, but will suffice to show their fitness. So adjusted as if they were actual hands, guided in exact line by sliding upon the spindle at each end of the slay, he showed in the actual operation of the picking peg that the dummy-hands would propel the shuttle to its goal more surely than the natural hand had thrown it.

"They were the shooters of shoot in the shootle."

This was JOHN KAY'S chief patent.

His KILN FLOOR, *i.e.*, wire-woven by hand to cover the spars of a Malt-Kiln floor, has stood to this day almost unimproved upon. Now woven in power-looms the wire gauze is very similar in design and construction.

The WIND MILL as described by Sir William Henry Bailey, has no doubt undergone some modification, but the germ idea remains *i.e.*, the harnessing of the wind to man's service as a source of power. What the "many

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First Statue erected to the Memory of

JOHN KAY,

to fulfil the injunction left to his Sons by the late
ROBERT HALL, *Hope Foundry, Bury.*

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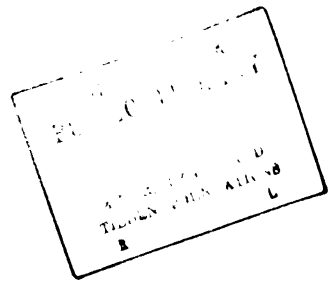

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more" inventions were which JOHN KAY had in his mind we shall never know. Enough for our purpose are the three unsurpassed and unsurpassable.

1. The Wire Reed.

2. The extending Slay and Picking arrangement and Fly-Shuttle.

3. The Card-Setting Machine.

The Card-Setting Machine has been minutely described by Aiken in his *History of Manchester and Forty Miles round.* It was the contrivance of JOHN KAY and his son, Robert. The marvel is that these inventions should have emanated from that little homestead at Park, near Bury, and be so little appreciated by the people of Bury. The people in the West Riding of Yorkshire were wider awake. In the towns and hamlets bounded on the west by Halifax, on the south by Brighouse, on the east by Heckmondwike and Cleckheaton, and on the north by Bradford, untold wealth has been accumulated by means of Card-Setting Machines such as JOHN KAY and his son Robert invented.

There is, if one may use such a description, a paradoxical expression of action in all the motions derived from the main shaft of a little Card-Setting Machine, that the eye of the onlooker is somewhat bewildered. This simple machine lends its complex movements to other purposes than Card-Setting. Several years ago the author adapted one such machine to the straightening, cutting, pointing, bending with loop eyelet, and accurately finishing at the rate of two hundred per minute, those wire box hinges so extensively used by box makers.

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The Records in *Abstracts of Patents* respecting the inventions of JOHN KAY are:

"1730. No. 515—Engine for Twisting and Cording Mohair and Worsted, &c.

JOHN KAY of Bury in the County of Lancaster, Reedmaker."

"1733. No. 542—Machine for Opening and Dressing Wool; and newly invented Shuttle, &c.

JOHN KAY of Bury in the County of Lancaster, Reedmaker."

"1738. No. 561—Engine for Raising Water, &c.

JOHN KAY of Bury in Our County of Lancaster, Engineer."

"1745. No. 612—Loom for Weaving Tape, &c.; Kiln for Drying Malt; Apparatus for Economising Fuel in the Manufacture of Salt.

JOHN KAY of the Co. Palatine of Lancaster, Gent., and Joseph Stell of Keighley in the Co. of York, Gent."

Thus step by step JOHN KAY recorded himself at the Patent Office, as Reedmaker, Engineer, and Gentleman. In 1745 he was evidently in better circumstances. His Shuttles were then well in use. During the period of Patents, 1730 to 1745, his trade or occupation at the baptisms of his children is recorded:

"1730, Ann dau. of JOHN KAY, Reedmaker.
1733, Alice dau. of JOHN KAY (no description).
1736, Lucy dau. of JOHN KAY, Reedmaker.
1738, James son of JOHN KAY, Reedmaker.
1741, Alice dau. of JOHN KAY, Shuttlemaker.
1743, Shusie dau. of JOHN KAY, Shuttlemaker.
1745, William son of JOHN KAY, Reedmaker."

Descriptions of him at the christenings of his daughter Lettice, and his son Robert are not given. In the old Bible there is a record of "Samuel s. of Mr. JOHN KAY,

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1728-9." At Edenfield Church, close by which is Sheephey, a record without description is entered of "Samuel son of JOHN KAY, born Sept. 5. Bap^{d} 29, 1731." No other JOHN KAY is found there up to 1753. In the Parish Church Register, Bury, there is "1753 Sam^{l} s. of JOHN KAY born Oct. 28, bap^{d} Nov. 15" without description. It is not improbable that the inventor had children in the case of 'Alice' and 'Samuel' with names duplicated, a quite common occurrence in olden days. The old Bible has Samuel 1728 and another 12/1/6 or 1766. During the past seventy years this practice was followed in the case of one family known to the author. Three successive children were named "John." The third "John" survives to this day.

The identification of the twelve children born to JOHN KAY has not been complete. The reason for this is that in registering births, marriages, or burials, localities are not specified which would enable the parentage to be identified. The author has obtained in his researches sufficient evidence to justify the statement that JOHN KAY never resided permanently at either Colchester or Leeds, but that he made Park, at Bury, in the county of Lancaster, his home until cruel fate drove him away. There is an allegory of American origin which may close this review of JOHN KAY'S inventions and his sorrowful exile:

"A landowner of two hundred years ago, being taken into the house of a present-day Artizan by the Archangel Gabriel was surprised to find the Artizan in the enjoyment of the luxuries of Gas, running Water, Woven goods, and other articles which in the landowner's time only came within the reach of the most rich.

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'Surely,' said the old time landowner, 'These things must belong to some wealthy English nobleman, who has come over to corrupt our people by his extravagance.' It being explained to the ancient landowner that these things had been brought within an ordinary working man's reach by the use of labour-saving machinery, 'How they must bless the machinery," said the ancient landowner.' 'No,' replied the Archangel, 'it may be curious, but instead of blessing each new invention, the Artizans had met each discovery with curses, and had on several occasions broken the machinery into little pieces.'"

However poor the author's efforts have been to write something worthy of JOHN KAY, this is a humble tribute to the memory of Bury's ingenious "Lancashire worthy."

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CHAPTER VIII.

GENEALOGICAL RECORDS.

THE deforesting of the King's forests in Lancashire was effected during the reign of Henry VII. (1485-1509). The inhabitants already settled about Tottington, Holcombe, Walmersley-cum-Shuttleworth, and away on the moorlands of Cheesden, Birtle, Ashworth, Knowle, Spotland, Rooley, &c., had free scope to clear the land and cultivate it. The population increased and added to their labours on the farms the spinning and weaving of wool. These additional sources of the means of livelihood were in due time the foundations of considerable wealth to the thrifty, and enabled such of the settlers as were so inclined to acquire positions in the localities which mere husbandry would not have sufficed to secure.

From 1332, when the first William Cay or Kay is found recorded in the Subsidy Rolls, as the largest contributor in Bury to the year 1485, about five generations would have passed. The great-great-grandchildren of this William would have settled themselves in the clearings and sheep pastures at Wydale in Elton. Gollinroyde, Shepplebotham, Bose Lone, Cobhouse, Dutch Road, Woodroad, Littlewood, Baldingstone, Sheephey, &c., &c., within the period covered by the reign of Henry VII. Cobhouse—Tophouse, appears to have been one if not

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the earliest homestead of the Kays, and William Kay of Cobbas, *tempo* 1500, is the one the author inclined to fix upon, as most probably the ancestor of the particular branches in this genealogical chapter.

In 1547, Arthur Kay was found by Inquisition to have done some repairs to his house at Cobbas. This Arthur Kay (1547) may have been the father of Robert Kay of Cobbas, a copy of whose Will dated 1612, the year of his death, was procured by the author. Robert Kay of Cobbas, is taken to have been the son of Arthur Kay, and had full possession of Cobbas in 1590. He was thrice married according to the reading of the Will. The name of the first wife does not appear in the Will, and the fact that the Registers of the Bury Parish Church of Saint Mary's, only commenced with the year 1590, we have no data to go upon. But in 1591[2] we find a recorded baptism of William Kay. This son was the eldest child recorded, and in 1616 married Dorothie, the daughter of Robert Barlow of Bury, whose christening was recorded in 1594; and as to Dorothy's identity confirmation is found recorded upon her gravestone in the Bury Parish Churchyard at this day.

With the second marriage of this Robert Kay to . . . . Leach, whose brother, Ellis, was executor to Robert Kay's Will, we are not concerned. Robert's third wife, Dorothie Fletcher, whom he married in 1604, was mother to his three youngest children (born 16067, 1609, and 1611) being one son and two daughters. The youngest son, born in 16067 was named Robert Kay, and he may have been the father of the earliest settlers of his name at Sheephey. He was left one-third part of Cobbas and

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his elder brother, William, two-thirds. In 1606 this William would be about fourteen years of age. In course of time William may be supposed to have been possessed of the whole of Cobbas estate, and the tradition which for generations was current in the Kay families of Baldingstone and Park—that they all sprung from a younger branch of the Kays of Cobbas—commands the author's respect.

As there is no doubt as to the earliest person at Sheephey whom the author has traced, he considers it most probable it was a well-founded tradition, and with him the following pedigree begins:

"Robert Kay, probably from Cobbas, born 1606-7, went, it is assumed, to Sheephey."

[There is no record in Bury Parish Church Registers that he was married at Bury.]

"Robert Kay son of Robert Kay of Sheephey, born 12th December, 1630, married Elizabeth (probably a Kay of Cheesden) and resided at Sheephey."

The author assumes that this person's father disposed of his one-third portion of Cobbas bequeathed to him in the Will of his father dated 1612, and set up housekeeping at Sheephey; and that he was the purchaser of the Park freehold consisting as it did of five or six farm holdings, and that he also had a grant of lease from Edward, Earl of Derby, of the "Moorland Waste," known by the name of "Shupplebothom Closes," in which lease (1694) his three sons were named as the three lives governing the continuance of the lease.

In the lease at Knowsley the eldest Robert is written off "Dead."

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"Robert Kay born about 1651.
John Kay born about 1654.
Richard Kay born about 1659."
(See Pedigree of Collaterals.)

Robert Kay born 1651, at Sheephey, inherited his father's freehold and leasehold estates. He married Ellin Entwisle of Quarlton, who survived him and married a second husband named . . . . Hamer. Robert Kay died about April 1704, leaving issue named in his Will (dated in that year) four sons and an expected child:

"Robert Kay born at Sheephey about 1690, of whom presently.
Ephraim Kay born at Park 7th May, 1697, died a minor.
Richard Kay born at Park about 1700—no records of issue.
William Kay born at Park about 1702 (*See* Inventor's Pedigree).
JOHN KAY (Posthumous Son) born at Park 16th July, 1704."

In the Will made 1704, the sons are all named as minors under the guardianship of their mother and her brother William. The legacies bequeathed to the younger sons were £30 each, but Ephraim dying before he attained the age of twenty-one years his share became apportioned equally (making £40 each) between his younger brothers as herein shown in receipts given by Richard and William.

The "Letters of Tuition" granted to William Entwisle, their uncle, for the due performance of the trust under Elizabeth's (their grandmother) estate, increased their means considerably as we may infer from the bond required for its faithful administration being fixed at £200. Their mother having married again their uncle William became their sole guardian.

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No records have been found of the christenings of Richard and William here mentioned, but seeing that in the "Letters of Tuition" their ages are therein given as twenty, nineteen, and seventeen years respectively, it has been possible to indicate by inference the years of their birth.

There was a Will proved in 1720 of Elizabeth Kay of Cheesden.

Robert Kay, born at Sheephey in 1690, the eldest son of Robert Kay and his wife Ellin, *née* Entwisle, had the freehold of Park and the leasehold of Shipperbothom Closes. His wife was Ann . . . . In his Will dated March 14th, 1777, and proved at Chester on May 15th, 1780, he names five daughters and one son:

"Ellen Kay who married John Nuttall, Top-o'-th'-Lee.

Betty Kay who married John Taylor.

Mary Kay who married (24th October, 1751) James Kenyon, and dying in the lifetime of her father left a daughter Mary Kenyon who took her mother's share in the Will.

Rachel Kay who married James Haworth, weaver, on 9th November, 1756.

Alice Kay, born 30th April, 1733, who married (by Licence) John Kay on 26th June, 1760.

Robert Kay, born 19th July, 1736. Sole executor under his father's Will; of whom immediately."

He was charged with the payment of £5 each to his sisters and his niece, and then the whole of his father's estate was his. His father died March 7th, 1780. The burial record styles him "Robert Kay, senr., Park." The son must have been a most thrifty individual and a faithful help to his father who favoured him to the

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extent shown in his father's Will. This Robert Kay (born July 19th, 1736) married by licence August 5th, 1762, one Betty Holt. He had Park estate. Shipperbothom had fallen out of lease when he was only eight years of age. Comparatively a young man he must have been greatly affected at the loss of his father, or in feeble health, for we find that five days only elapsed after he had obtained probate of his father's Will when he set about putting his own affairs in order. He died on May 27th, 1780, at Park. By his Will dated May 20th, 1780, it will be seen that he was possessed of considerable property. The freehold estate of Park, another freehold estate called "The Warm Oaken" in Catlow Lane, and the freehold estate of "Bowling Green;" also the fourth part or interest in the copyhold estate called "Holcomehead." His children are named in the following order.

"Anne Kay had Holcomehead and £100 each from her brothers Robert and John.

Robert Kay had Park, but went to reside at Redivals, and dying without issue he left Park to his brothers in equal shares, John to have the first offer to purchase.

John Kay had the 'Warm Oaken' charged with £100, and of him presently.

Richard Kay had 'Bowling Green' estate; see presently."

The Park estate was left to John and Richard in equal moieties. Neither of them would agree with the other as to the price of his moiety, and after a time Richard sold his half of the estate fee simple to John Lonsdale of Haslingden, and in this family it remained for some years. In course of time John, who had not

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disposed of his moiety, purchased from the son of John Lonsdale aforesaid, the share which his brother had previously sold. Robert Kay (born 1763[4]) had Park and dying S.P. bequeathed it to his brother, John Kay (born May 13th, 1768), who became ultimately as above explained, the sole possessor of the family estate.

This John Kay married Molly, the daughter of Robert Kay of Baslane, and afterwards of Brookshaw, and his wife, Richmal, the daughter of Thomas Kay and Ann his wife, *née* Royle of Chesham, born March 7th, 1769. He, John Kay, was a fustian manufacturer at Bury. This is the only instance in the history of the families at Park where the owner of Park is stated to have been engaged in any description of manufacture. In this wedding of John Kay and of Molly Kay his wife, we find the families of Park, Baslane, Chesham, and Baldingstone connected. It may be interesting to note that about 1668, in the three families of Baldingstone, Sheephey, and Park, relationship was established by Richard Kay of Baldingstone, marrying a sister of Robert Kay of Sheephey. John Kay and Molly, his wife, resided in Stanley Street, Bury, the greater portion of their married life, but towards the close they moved to their Park estate where John died September 2nd, 1806. By his Will he left all his estate to his wife and children in equal shares. Their children were christened at the Presbyterian Chapel, Silver Street, Bury, with the exception of the first child Richmal. The record relating to her is from the gravestone. John and Molly had issue:

"Richmal Kay born 1790, died 11 April, 1797, aged six years 11 months.

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Robert Kay born in Stanley Street, Bury, 17 June, 1792, died 12 February, 1808.

John Kay born in Stanley Street, Bury, 7th May, 1794.

Richmal Kay born in Stanley Street, Bury, 6th May, 1796.

Thomas Kay born in Stanley Street, Bury, 28th November, 1797, died 28th February, 1848.

Elizabeth Kay born in Stanley Street, Bury, 16th June, 1798, died 13th October, 1838.

Mary Ann Kay born in Stanley Street, Bury, 12th October, 1800, married Dennis Grundy of Clitheroe, but no records of issue.

William Kay born at Park, 19th February, 1803, died 29th December, 1803.

Richard Kay born at Park, 26th June, 1806. Married Mary Howard of Bury, and resided in Union Street, Bury; a grocer. Issue: John Kay of Bolton Street, Bury, who married Mary Ellen Whittle; Robert Kay of Frank Street, Bury, who married Lydia Bentley."

Richard Kay born at Park, 1769, who sold his moiety of Park estate bequeathed to him by his elder brother, ultimately settled at Limefield, and married Betty . . . . or Elizabeth . . . . and are identified with the recorded christenings at the Presbyterian Chapel, Silver Street, Bury, as follows:

"Richard Kay born at Limefield, 13 December, 1790.
Mary Kay born at Limefield, 12th October, 1792.
Elizabeth Kay born at Limefield, 25th September, 1794.
Anne Kay born at Limefield, 5th July, 1796."

The author would call attention to the above-named "Richard son of Richard Kay," one year old in 1791, as being most probably one of the lives in the lease procured from the Earl of Derby in 1791, by Robert Kay

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the eldest son of JOHN KAY the inventor, in which lease Elizabeth Oram, born 1790, and aged one year in 1791, is another of the three lives. Elizabeth Oram here named married the elder John Whitehead of Haslam Hey.

The author was permitted to examine the oldest lease book which Mr. Statter has at Bury of Lord Derby's leases. He did so with the view of ascertaining the site of Robert Kay's house. This house was transferred by the first Thomas Oram to the Robert Kay the inventor of the drop box, and it was found that the names are given of the three lives in the new lease as below. The date of this lease is December 10th, 1791, and it is a grant to Robert Kay of a messuage and four poles of land in the Old Market Place, Bury, for three lives.

"Richard the son of Richard Kay, aged 1 year.
Elizabeth Oram (family record says born 1790), aged 1 year.
Richmal the daughter of John Kay, aged 1 year."

Those have all been identified without doubt as relatives of the lessees. The third life was Richmal, the daughter of John and Molly Kay. She died April 11th, 1797, aged six years and eleven months. This house and land of Robert Kay's were situate in the Old Market Place, facing the residence of his father JOHN KAY, and latterly of his younger brother John. It also faced the "Old Grey Mare" which was the next house on the right hand of JOHN KAY'S. The illustrations found in this volume of Bury in those days will recall the appearance of the centre of the town.

In bringing to a close the lineage of the main line of the Kays of Park, it is interesting to note that by a

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deed dated March 31st, 1827, the historical homestead with all the forms pertaining to the freehold of inheritance of Park passed into the possession of the "Cheeryble Brothers," William Grant and Brother. The parties to the deed were Molly Kay and her children surviving at the death of their father, and the consideration money was £2,500.

In Chapter V., much corroborative evidence will be found as to the statements made in the pedigree of the main line of descent. In fact all that is of real value has been by much labour procured and set forth.

The lines of Richard, William, and John the younger, branches of Kays of Park.

It has been shown that the Sheephey Kays were settled there in very turbulent times. The reign of the Commonwealth and the iron grip of Oliver Cromwell held sway. The Restoration under Charles II. was not more peaceful in the religious world. The form of religious worship had acquired the impress of the government of Presbytery.

In following the fortunes of various branches of the Kay family it is notable that some were for the Episcopalian and others for the Presbyterian forms of Church government. These reflections are pertinent to what has been the aim of the author, who had a difficult task in following up divergent adherents to church or dissent.

The Registers consulted are so wanting in definiteness as to lead to doubts in the case of some much-desired particulars. The absence of one Register, that kept by the Rev. C. Edward Rothwell after the death

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of the Rev. C. Henry Pendlebury, would, if available, have greatly assisted the author in regard to some details which have come into notice upon the recent access the author has had to the "Letters of Tuition" of and concerning the three young men whose names head this section.

The homestead at Park founded in 1694, went through remarkable vicissitudes during the following twenty-five years. Robert Kay and his wife, Elizabeth, did not long enjoy together their new home. The author considered this Robert was the son born in 1630, and dying sometime between 1694 and 1704, left the Park freehold and leasehold of Shipperbottom to his eldest son, Robert, who disposed of them as shown in his Will of 1704. In the author's opinion the last-named Robert did not marry till he was well on in years. Probably he had the management of his father's estate with the general supervision of the farms, and the support of his mother, Elizabeth, depending upon him. Mindful of the fact that the younger children of her eldest son, Robert, were but poorly provided for in their father's Will of 1704, we find that she left what estate she had at her disposal to the three grandsons named. From other data produced in documents in the earlier part of this book it is shown that her daughter-in-law had married a second husband named Hamer. The author is inclined to think that the son, Robert, was married about 1689, to a wife considerably younger than himself, whom he contemplated might not improbably marry a second time. All her children were very young. The eldest was not more than fourteen years of age when her first husband died. Thus

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we see that the home would pass through great changes when her eldest son married and took possession of his estate. The second son, Ephraim, aged seven at his father's death did not reach manhood.

Richard, William, and John were left; Richard married Elizabeth Ormerod, on November 10th, 1724, and moved to Haslingden, amongst his wife's relations. There he probably devoted himself to husbandry.

A crisis was approaching in the family, for we find by the terms of one release given herein as one of the illustrations (and further copied on page 78) that before 1725, Ellen the mother had married. Provision was made for this contingency in the Will of 1704, and hence the nomination of her brother, William, as sole guardian in the "Letters of Tuition."

So far as their uncle had been faithful to the trust reposed in him we have it in evidence that William, following the bent of his mind had been put to the trade of a shoemaker.

We can contemplate the two young men, William and John, becoming strongly attached each to the other, for we find them both entering into the bonds of wedlock on the same day, viz., June 29th, 1725. William married Mary Booth, of Bury. The gap in the baptismal register respecting his family is rather wide. No christenings identified as those of his family have been abstracted from the Parish Church Register at Bury between 1725 and 1730, nor after 1741. Records of baptisms which the author has found are as follows:

"Betty dau. of William Kay, Shoemaker, born Nov. 27, 1730.

Richard s. of William Kay, Shoemaker, born July 22, 1732.

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Ann d. of William Kay, Shoemaker, born Apr. 9, 1734.
William s. of William Kay, Shoemaker, born Oct. 14, 1736.
Thomas s. of William Kay, Shoemaker, born Apr. 30, 1739.
Sarah d. of William Kay, Shoemaker, born May 30, 1741."

[There were Christenings of other children of "William Kay," but these could not be identified.]

With these names we may leave this family as no further attempt to trace any of the persons named will be interesting to the reader or come within the scope of these memoirs.

JOHN KAY the third and last of the three grandsons of Elizabeth Kay, of Sheephey, is undoubtedly the most interesting personality hitherto named in our narrative.

It was this JOHN KAY who came to be handed down to posterity as Bury's representative upon the roll of "Lancashire Worthies," the inventor of the Fly-Shuttle.

PEDIGREE OF JOHN KAY AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

JOHN KAY, the inventor of the Fly-Shuttle &c., &c., married when within one month of attaining the age of twenty-one years, Anne, the daughter of John Holte, of Bury, and being in possession of his legacy of £40 derived through his father's Will and further increased by his third share under his grandmother's Will, he would be able to settle comfortably at his marriage. Where he first settled has not been ascertained, but he ultimately resided at the house in Bury Market Place which formed part of the structure in which the "Old Grey Mare," shown in one of the illustrations in this book was adjoining. In that house there is little doubt the mob which came into Bury in search of him found him, but

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from which he luckily made his escape. In all probability JOHN KAY resided there when he worked out his inventions. Probably it was in that house his increasing family were nurtured and reared. Records of his family are as follows:

LETTICE KAY daughter of JOHN KAY born 10th July, 1726, ob. 30th June, 1811, married John Fletcher, b. 1721, d. 1765. Their son Thomas Fletcher, Reedmaker, b. 1761, d. 1837, married Catherine . . . . issue: Matthew Fletcher, b. 1795, d. 1878, Surgeon, Henry Street, Bury, who married Elizabeth Hill, b. 1809, d. 1858, having issue, Robert, Helen, and Thomas, all of whom died in infancy.

ROBERT KAY son of JOHN KAY born 3rd July, 1728, d. 1802, having married on 10th May, 1748, Elizabeth Rawstron, b. 1726, d. 1792; recorded as "Betty" on the gravestone.

This Robert was the inventor of the Drop Box. The early residence of this family has not been ascertained, but some years ago the author was informed that Kay's cardmaking place was at Moorside, Bury, and the structure remains there at the present time. The three-storied old stone fabric now occupied as Cart and Waggon Sheet and other Works is the building referred to, upon the reliable authority of the late Mr. John Thomas Smith, late of the firm of Crompton & Co., Stationers, Fleet Street, Bury. Having verified by the examination of the Earl of Derby's old Bury lease book previously referred to, some information which the author obtained in 1898, it may be stated as an unquestionable fact that Robert Kay in the latter part of his life took a lease of the messuage and land on the Old Market Place in 1791, *i.e.*, eleven years before he died.

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In this lease it has been shown that the three lives were his grand-daughter Elizabeth Oram, Richard the son of Richard, and Richmal the daughter of John, the two brothers to whom the estate of Park was left by their elder brother Robert Kay, of Redivals. The property which Robert bought in the Old Market Place at Bury, stood upon the land now occupied by the Castle Buildings, the Union Bank, and Mr. C. Ainsworth's Florist's Shop. In the old days it would be as nearly as possible opposite the house which his father had been driven from in 1753, and in which his younger brother John and Elizabeth his wife (*née* Lonsdale) had subsequently occupied. John the said younger brother died in the year the lease named was granted to Robert, but John's widow still remained and her daughter after her, till the old structure was demolished to open out the present Market Street.

In one of the illustrations of Old Bury, the residence which Robert Kay purchased in 1791, and in which he died is shown. His children were recorded as follows:

John son of Robert Kay, Shuttlemaker, born Oct. 24, 1749.

Ann dau. of Robert Kay, Shuttlemaker, born Nov. 11, 1751.

Dorothy Kay born . . . remained with her father till well on in life, ultimately marrying John Barlow, Sadler, of Mere, Cheshire, having issue Robert Kay Barlow who died S.P., and William Barlow.

Samuel Kay, born 1764, died S.P., 12 March, 1830, continued after his father's death to reside in the house named in the lease referred to. He was the informant of Guest the historian and others who sought information about his father and grandfather.

William Kay born 1765, died 29 Nov. 1783.

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Lucy Kay, born Jan. 28, 1770, and died in 1856, having married Thomas Oram of Bury, Attorney-at-Law. Issue: Thomas Oram, b. 1791, d. 11 Jan. 1858, Woollen Manufacturer, of Simpson Clough and Bury, who married Harriet Walker, dau. of James Walker of Whitehead Bridge, Bury, Dyer, and Felt Hat Manufacturer. Issue: Thomas Oram, d. S.P., aged 32 years; Robert Oram who married Ellen Handley, daughter of James Handley, Bury. Issue: Lucy Oram who married Mr. Buela and dying young left one child, a daughter, Bessie Oram, who married Dr. Trimble of Bamber Bridge (no record of issue).

William Oram d. S.P., 1857.

George Oram died in childhood.

Henry Oram b. 1835, d. 5 Feb., 1887, having married Esther Allanson. Issue: Jessie Oram.

Katherine Oram who married Mr. Merton.

Blanche Oram the authoress, "Roma White," who married, second wife, Charles J. Winder.

Edith Hardman Oram who married Robert Whitehead, son of John Whitehead and his wife Eliza Ellen, *née* Allanson, of Haslam Hey, Elton, Bury.

Mona Katherine Oram married Mr. Grenville.

Henry Hardman Oram, Doctor of Medicine.

James Oram b. 1835, d. 1854.

Samuel Oram b. 1836, Woollen Manufacturer, Bury, married in 1862, Alice Haughton, daughter of James Kenyon of Crimble, and Derby Street, Bury, Woollen Manufacturer, and sister of James Kenyon, late Member of Parliament for Bury, of Walshaw Hall, Woollen Manufacturer and Cotton Spinner. Mr. Oram lived at Beechfield, Bury, and died on the 29th March, 1889, aged 53. He left issue: Margaret Oram; Thomas Oram who was twice married, first to Annie Adams, second to Annie Calvert, but author has no record of issue; William Oram

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who married Minnie Samuel, but no other records; Samuel, but no other records; Alice Oram; Gertrude Oram; Helen Mary Oram; Ethel Kenyon Oram.

Elizabeth Oram b. 1790, was one of the lives in the lease obtained from the Earl of Derby in 1791, by her grandfather, Robert Kay, of his house in Bury Old Market Place. This Elizabeth Oram married John Whitehead, b. 1790, of Lower Croft, Bleacher, who was grandson of the Rev. Thomas Whitehead, Curate at Westhoughton where he died 3 Nov., 1788, aged 77 years. His remains were interred at Ringley Church.

John Whitehead died 17th March, 1876, aged 86, having had a family of two sons and three daughters.

John Whitehead, b. 1815, d. 16 April, 1898, aged 83, of Haslam Hey, and afterwards of Broughton Park; thence to Rufford Hall near Southport. Subsequently at Penwortham Priory and Ashleigh, Buxton, where he died. He married Eliza Ellen, the daughter of John Allanson and his wife Rachel, the daughter of John Lomax of Barrack Fold, Tottington, and his wife Ann Openshaw the daughter of George Openshaw of Pimhole. His remains were brought from Ashleigh, Buxton, and interred at All Saints' Church, Elton, Bury. Five sons and five daughters were born of this marriage.

Edmund Whitehead, died, aged 20.

Walter Whitehead, Surgeon, F.R.C.S., F.R.S. Edin., President of the British Medical Association (1902). He has originated several surgical operations which have received wide recognition and adoption throughout the world. He resides at Brookside House, Oxford Road, Manchester. He married Emma Schofield, daughter of the late Christopher James Schofield of Whalley Range, Manchester. Issue: Madeline Whitehead, b. 13 Aug., 1885.

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Henry Whitehead of Haslam Hey, Bury, D.L. and J.P. for the County of Lancaster and High Sheriff for Lancashire (1903), Bleacher and Dyer, will receive extended notice in the Appendix to this volume. He married Louisa, the daughter of Peter Priestley of Glead Hill, Euxton, Co. Lanc., son of Peter Priestley of Glead Hill aforesaid, and Charlotte Dean his wife, of Manchester. Issue: Kate Whitehead, who married George A. Kay of Elton House, Bury, Captain and Hon. Major in the 1st V.B. of the Lancashire Fusiliers; John Whitehead, b. 28 Aug., 1874; Amy Whitehead, b. Dec. 14, 1875, and married June, 1903, H. Holman; Percy Whitehead, b. 18 August, 1877; Frank Whitehead, b. 12 July, 1880; Bertram Whitehead, b. 12 Oct., 1881, d. 15 March, 1883; Henry Whitehead, b. 2 Aug., 1883; Sydney-Dean Whitehead, b. 23 Sept., 1885.

Betsy Whitehead married to J. Taylor, Liverpool, Cotton Broker, but no further records.

John Whitehead died at School, aged 15 years.

Susan Whitehead married Charles James Winder, of Bromley Cross, Bolton, Cotton Spinner, and dying left issue: Eric Winder; Bertie Winder.

[Charles James Winder married secondly Blanche Oram, daughter of Henry Oram, who as "Roma White" wrote *The Changeling of Brandlesome Hall*].

Robert Whitehead married on April 25th, 1888, Edith, daughter of Henry Oram (see *ante*) and having issue: Madge Allanson Oram, b. 20 Dec., 1889; Marjorie Allanson Oram, b. 6 Jan., 1891; Mona Allanson Oram, b. 28 Jan., 1894.

Ellen Whitehead married Thomas McKean of Bolton, Cotton Spinner. Author has only record of two sons, Thomas McKean, John McKean.

Ada Whitehead married Walter Mucklow of Bury.

Annie Whitehead married John Sharp of Bolton, Co. Lanc., Engineer. No issue recorded.

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Robert Kay Whitehead.

Lucy Whitehead married Thomas Clegg of Heywood.

Susan Whitehead resided with her brother Robert for some time. She died unmarried.

Emma Whitehead married William Scott of Kersal, near Manchester. Issue: Dugald Scott, Walter Scott.

SAMUEL KAY, see old Bible, born 1728. No records.

ANN d. of JOHN KAY, Reedmaker, b. 15 June, 1730; took the veil.

SAMUEL the son of JOHN KAY (Edenfield Church) b. 15 Sept., 1731. No records.

ALICE d. of JOHN KAY, b. Dec. 30, christened Dec. 30, 1733. No records.

LUCY d. of JOHN KAY, Reedmaker, b. 26 July, 1736. No records.

JAMES s. of JOHN KAY, Reedmaker, b. 15 July, 1738. No records.

JOHN s. of JOHN KAY, b. 1740, died 1791 (gravestone record), married daughter of Myles Lonsdall of Overfields, and Silver Street, Bury, and resided at the house in Old Fleet Street, which was on one side of the Old Market Place, Bury.

The house adjoined the Old Grey Mare, as shown in the illustration. John travelled with his father on some of his foreign journeys, and to this fact is attributed the son's affectation for the three-cornered hat and French style of dress shown in the portraits which his grandson Lieut.-Col. Thomas Sutcliffe published and circulated as portraits of the inventor. History records little of interest regarding this son of the inventor beyond what his father-in-law Squire Lonsdall is reported to have said as related by "Veritas." Of his wife Elizabeth, born

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1737, an incident in her life related to the author by a lady descendant of Myles Lonsdall is worth recording. Beneath the austere, outward semblance of severity ascribed to Myles Lonsdall, there was a flow of natural affection unknown to the outside world. For its pathos the following story must be told to the credit of the dying father. One thought held him in his dying hours, viz.: to see and be at peace with his daughter Elizabeth. She was taken from her sick bed in a Sedan chair, but on arriving at her father's house in Silver Street was denied by her brother admission to the house. She had to be taken home again with the only consolation possible to her in her deep distress; the feeling that her father had relented and wished to be at peace with her. She survived her husband's death twenty-two years, and died 30th June, 1837, in her 77th year. The children recorded of this marriage were:

John Kay b. 1765, who went to America and died there.

Mary Kay, twin, born 1767, died an infant.

Frances Kay, twin to Mary, born 1767, married thrice: first, John Sutcliffe, Dyer, Salford. Her only child was Thomas Sutcliffe, born in Salford, 13th May, 1791. This Thomas was apprenticed to the weaving trade, but preferring a life of adventure he ran away from home and kindred in the year 1805. In a previous chapter reference has been made to this son who became Lieut.-Colonel Thomas Sutcliffe. After a life of ups and downs, at times bordering on the romantic, he died in great poverty in London, S.P., 1849.

Frances Kay's second husband was Peter McCandlish of Manchester. Her third husband was John Davenport of Godley Hall, near Stockport, who, dying before his wife left her with a

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settled income of nearly £200 for her life. She survived her husband and son many years.

Richard Kay b. 1768, married Ann, the daughter of Richard Holt of Bury; he emigrated to America also and nothing more of him seems to be known in the family than that he died on the same day as his brother John, and they were living hundreds of miles away from each other. He had one son, John Kay, of whom nothing is known.

Richmal Kay, born March 14th, 1770, married twice: first, Mr. Willis of Nangreaves and had issue: James Willis who died S.P.; second, she married on 28th Jan., 1798, John Salt, Attorney-at-Law, Bury, born 1775 and died 15 Dec., 1803, aged 28 years. The children of this marriage were: Sarah Salt, who married in April, 1819, Thomas Lord, Machinist, Butcher Lane (predecessor to the firm of Walker, Smith, and Hacking), Bury, and had issue five daughters:—

Jane Lord, born 29 Jan. 1820, who married in 1840 Mr. Porritt, and dying 29 July, 1856, left issue.

Richmal Lord, b. Aug. 28, 1821, died 31 Oct., 1834.

Sarah Lord, b. 3 April, 1824, who married on 4th April, 1844, Thomas Holt, Tailor, Silver Street, Bury, now of Wrenwood, St. Annes-on-the-Sea. Issue: Thomas Lord, died S.P.; Alice Holt, who married Edmund Taylor of Bury, now of Fern House, Chesterfield. Issue: Florence Taylor, b. 3 May, 1869; Robert Samuel Taylor, b. 13 Nov., 1871; Thomas Cuthbert Taylor, b. 6 Jan, 1874, d. 18 Dec., 1874; Oscar Holt Taylor, b. 3 Dec, 1875; Clara Ethel Taylor, b. 25 March, 1877; Mary Taylor, b. 13 Aug., 1879; Roger Edmund Taylor, b. 30 Oct., 1881; Harold Taylor, b. 8 Jan., 1884, d. 6 April, 1893.

Elizabeth Lord, b. 11 Feb., 1827, d. 7 Jan., 1891.

Hannah Lord b. 15 April, 1829, d. 14 Jan, 1883.

John Salt b. 16 Dec., 1799, d. 14 Jan., 1883, having married

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Ann Brooks of Bolton who, with several others who died without issue, had: Ellen Salt, b. May 16, 1828, who married Samuel Ferns, b. 1817 and d. 1876, Brass Founder, Manchester.

The issue of this marriage: Thomas Ferns b. 12 May, 1849, died an infant; Eliza Ferns b. 20 Oct., 1850, who married Archibald Freeman of Levenshulme. Issue: William Freeman (died an infant), Thomas Freeman, Harold Freeman, Percy Freeman, Arthur Freeman, Frank Freeman, Archibald Freeman.

Sarah Ellen Ferns, b. 10 Dec., 1852, d. infant.

Ellen Ferns b. 14 Nov., 1854, d. s.p. 28 July, 1891.

Alice Ferns b. 30 Nov., 1856, who married John Joseph Archibald Jeffcoat of Levenshulme, Manchester. Issue: Stanley Ferns Jeffcoat, Dorothy Salt Jeffcoat.

John Salt, born 1837, now of Athol Bank, Gatley, Cheshire, who has been twice married; first to Harriet Knowles, his cousin, and had issue: Ada Eveline Salt, who has been twice married; first to Thomas Whaley Bransby and had: Alice Hepworth Bransby, Alice Knowles Bransby, Doris Greaves Bransby; second to John Herbert Bagnall, no issue.

John Salt married secondly Ann Leyland, by whom one child, Edith Salt, born 1879 (no other record).

Samuel Kay born 1771, died 23 Feb., 1772.

Elizabeth Kay born 10 April, 1774, d. 24 Dec., 1774.

Mary Kay born 24 Aug., 1775, who married Mr. Clarkson of Rochdale, and had issue: David Clarkson, Solicitor, Rochdale; Betsy Clarkson, who married Ensign Bloomfield.

Elizabeth Kay, born 23 March, 1777, married Captain Dangerfield, Ship Broker. He went to America. The author has no record of his family.

Lucy Kay born 27th March, 1778, married Mr. Merryweather, Art Dealer, Manchester, but had no issue.

ALICE d. of JOHN KAY, Shuttlemaker, born April 31, 1741.

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SHUSIE (SUSAN) d. of JOHN KAY, Shuttlemaker, born 1743, was the youngest daughter and the eleventh child of the inventor, and remained with her troubled mother till almost the last. Shusie married on 19th July, 1762, James Snape of Prestwich, and the witness who signed the Register in addition to Thomas Crompton the Clerk, was her uncle Robert Kay, the inventor of the Drop-Box, whose handwriting, being familiar to the author from perusing Robert Kay's books of account led to this record of marriage being recognised. In all probability she was "given" in marriage by her uncle Robert. Issue: Ellen Snape who was twice married; first on 12 January, 1802, to Elisha Blakeley, Weaver, son of Elisha and Alice Blakeley of Whitefield. Issue: John Blakeley born Dec. 19, 1802, no details; Elizabeth Blakeley born Nov. 27, 1804, no details; James Blakeley born March 23, 1807, Mayor of Clitheroe; Esther Blakeley born July 16, 1809, no details; Leah Blakeley born May 15, 1820, and married at Middleton Church, May 17, 1840, to Edmund Wild, son of James Wild and his wife Jane of Heywood or Castleton, who was born Aug. 19, 1812, and died Nov. 16, 1874, having had issue: Joseph Snape Wild born Oct. 22, 1841, who came to Bury and Elton district. He held a responsible position under the Openshaws of Pimhole and at Moorside Works. He has now retired to Stanah Cottage, Thornton, Poulton-le-Fylde. From his grandmother he received many family relics which she had received from her grandmother, the wife of the inventor. Joseph Snape Wild married Alice Wood, born Jan. 16, 1842.

She was a kinswoman of Colonel George Edward Wike, now of Bury, and had issue: Ann Wild born April 22, 1866, who married Aug. 31, 1897, John Ashworth Cryer. Issue: Josephine Wike Cryer, born July 8, 1898. Alice Ellen Wild, b. July 11, 1882, d. Dec. 28, 1882; Mary Wild born June 1, 1844; James Wild born June 8, 1847; Edward Wild born Aug. 29, 1850;

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Leah Wild born Dec. 1, 1852; Ellen Wild born Sept. 6, 1855; John Wild born Feb. 18, 1858; Alf Wild born March 2, 1861; Jane Wild born Oct. 3, 1863, died Aug 7, 1888.

Ellen Wild (*née* Snape) married a second time. Her second husband was one James Whitehead, but of the issue of this marriage the author has no records. As the wife or widow of James Whitehead her remains were placed in Saint Paul's Churchyard, at Bury, on January 24th, 1864 (as before noticed) her age being 84.

Betty Snape, second daughter of James Snape and his wife Shusie Kay; no records further supplied to the author.

WILLIAM s. of JOHN KAY, Reedmaker, born 14 June, 1745.

With this name the author completes the list of twelve sons and daughters born to JOHN KAY and his wife Anne Holt.

A relationship exists between John Henry Kay, Brushmaker, of Stanley Street, Bury, and Joseph Snape Wild, on the Kay as well as on the Wood side, but to the author's regret the details were not obtainable from the absence of recorded data.

The author gladly wished to complete the remarkable pedigree of the descendants of JOHN KAY by recording the year of his departure and the place wherein his remains were interred, but the doubts he had grew nearer to conviction that these details will never be written from any public records. *Cui bono?* He lived and laboured for a generation of doubters. Vengence replaced doubt. His own seemed unable to shield him, and in a foreign land he finished his earthly task. R.I.P.

[*See* "Appendix," a letter from Mr. Hall.]

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th Openshaw,
unmarried.

Mary Openshaw
married her cou
William Walk
Openshaw, C
Eden Street

Mary Lomax
died
unmarried.

Susan Whitehead,
married
Charles J. Winder,
of Bromley Cross,
Cotton Spinner,
Bolton.

ercy-Kay Whitehead,
born
August 18th, 1877.

Franl

Janus

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Descents of Collateral Branches.

The Estate of Park was, according to information which has been supplied to the author, divided into six farms, viz.:—The Park; Lower Park; Park Wood; Pike; The Hough (on which Grant's Tower stands); and Snape Hill. At one period or another these farms were occupied by relatives of the owner of Park Estate. There is evidence that Robert Kay, of Park, who died in 1704, recognised his kinship to some if not all of his tenants. The claim of these tenants to relationship is based upon the descent from one or other of the brothers, John or Richard, whose names appear as those of two of the three lives in the lease of Shipperbotham Closes, obtained in 1694, by their father. This claim survives to this day amongst the living descendants of these earlier men of Sheephey and of Park. It was quite natural that the Robert Kay who obtained the lease referred to would place his sons or their descendants upon the estate. There is no account of his testamentary arrangements beyond the evidence contained in the Will of 1704, of his eldest son Robert, the inventor's father, whom we find in possession of "the freehold of inheritance" and then disposing of it. This Robert who was heir to the Park Estate would have his uncles John and Richard, the other two lives in the said lease, in occupation of some of the farms as undertenants. Upon that assumption, which the author considered well founded, he deduced the following descents supported from four independent branches:

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Robert Kay of Sheephey living there had a son Robert Kay born Dec. 12th, 1630, who married Elizabeth . . . and in his lease of Shipperbotham Closes he named their three sons: Robert Kay was heir to Park and died 1704; with him and his descendants the author's task is finished; John Kay, aged 40 in 1694, died before 1744; Richard Kay, aged 35 in 1694, died before 1744.

Thomas Kay, born 1730, probably he who married, Nov., 1755, Mary Rostron, had the tenancy of Pike Farm, and was known to be half-cousin to JOHN KAY the inventor of the fly-shuttle. Either John Kay, aged 40 in 1694, or Richard aged 35 in 1694, would be grandfather to the above-named Thomas Kay of Pike Farm. This claim to half-cousinship is maintained by four persons now living, each representing different lines of descent. He had three sons:—

Thomas Kay, born 1758, who had Park Wood Farm, and was twice married, and was the father of twenty-one children. First he married Martha Horrocks, and the author has had following names of issue of this first marriage: James Kay b. 1785, killed in 1856, married and had issue: Mary Kay, Betsy Kay, James Kay, Sarah Kay, John Kay, born 1833, residing recently at Baldingstone; Alice Kay born 1791, d. 1877, married James Storey; Sarah Kay married William Heap, Farmer, High Bank, no records supplied to author beyond above; Thomas Kay born 1792, and died Oct. 12, 1856, having married a Miss Heap, and on his marriage left his father's farm and took the Knowe, Tottington, issue: John Kay; William Kay b. 1816, d. 14 March, 1878, having married, but wife's name not known, issue: William Kay, living 1898, Alice Kay, living 1898, Betsy Kay, living 1898; James Kay, Dyer (b. 1817 or 1819), died 25 Nov., 1874, having married Mary Hoyle, when he moved to Redvales, Bury, and had issue: Thomas Kay, b. 1843, surviving 1903, at No. 34,

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Rochdale Road, Bury, Co. Lanc. Married, but wife has died leaving issue: John Kay born 1863, married, but died s.p., Mary Ann Kay born 1845, Samuel Kay born 1852, Squire Kay born 1854, Alice Kay born 1863; Thomas Kay born 1821, married, wife not named, issue: Thomas Kay, William, David Kay, James Kay, Mary Ann Kay; Mary Kay born 1823, married but d. s.p.; Betty Kay born 1827, spinster; William Kay, no account of him; Ann Kay, no account of her. Second wife not named; issue reported to author: Samuel Kay, went to America; Robert Kay b. 1808, d. 1878, of whom no report; Joseph Kay born 1810, of Cheswell Farm, Walmersley, married Rachel Hulme, and had two sons and one daughter; Samuel Kay, married, wife not named, issue: Joseph Kay; Alice Kay, no details; Thomas Kay, b. 6 May, 1835, married Mary Holt, and resided at Cheswell Farm: issue Joseph Kay; John Kay, no other record; Martha Kay and Richmal Kay, went to live at Hyde and died there.

John Kay born 1760, and died 28 March, 1843. Had Pike Farm. He was twice married; his first wife's name was Mary. His remains were interred at Park Chapel; issue: John Kay born 1803, died 1868, married Mary Brook and went to Great Fowte Farm on his marriage, and had issue; John Kay born 1827, d. about 1891, Ellen Kay born 1830, d. Oct. 18, 1883, Stephen Brook Kay b. 1834, d. Feb. 24, 1897, Mary Brook Kay, b. 1834, d. July 20, 1856, James Kay b. 1837, d. 1837, Thomas Kay b. 1838, no other record, Peter Kay b. 1842, d. 1881, William Kay b. 1845, no other record; James Kay b. 1804, d. 1886, had Pike Farm and married Hannah Ogden, and had issue: William Kay, wife not named, issue: James Kay, no report, Bennett Kay, presently residing at 74, Peel Brow, Ramsbottom, but no other details supplied to author; James Kay d. s.p.; Peter Kay, wife not named, issue: Harry Kay, no further details; Betty Kay married Thomas Spencer, and had

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issue: Thomas Spencer, no details, Mary Spencer, no details, Nancy Spencer, no details, James Spencer, no details.

William Kay went to Snape Hill Farm; born about 1762; on leaving the home of his parent went, first, to Snape Hill Farm. He married one of the daughters (Mary, or Betty Grundy), of Dennis Grundy by his third wife Mary, the daughter of George Scholes of Hilton Lane, Prestwich. These sisters, Mary and Betty, were in the order named here the youngest sisters of Edmund Grundy of Park Hills, and his wife Sarah Scholes; of this marriage were four children: John Kay born 1789, d. 9 May, 1868, twice married, first to Mary . . . and second to Maria, but d. s.p. He was a corn and flour dealer at the corner of Walmersley Lane and Paradise Street.

Samuel Kay b. 1791, d. 26 Sep., 1861, Hat Manufacturer, Kay Fold, Wash Lane, Bury, formerly of Littlewood Cross. He married Mary the daughter of Robert Shepherd of Sales Farm, Pimhole, and his wife Mary Kay, the daughter of Robert son of William the eldest son of William and Mary Kay of Cobhouse. He thus linked up the Kays of Sheephey, the Grundys, and Scholes, with the Kays of Cobhouse. Issue were: Mary Kay born 1813, d. 1849, having married Matthew Peel, Tanner, &c., Tan Pits. He was one of the Bury Improvement Commissioners for some years; twice married, he had issue by his first wife: Henry Peel d. s.p., Mary Peel who married Dr. William Nuttall of Manchester Road, and Henry Street, Bury, son of Thomas Nuttall and Nancy his wife *née* Wood, which Thomas was son of Francis Nuttall, chief cashier to the firm of Peel and Yates (Sir Robert Peel), Bury Ground; issue: one son and three daughters. The son, Dr. Arthur Peel Nuttall, Clough Street, Bury, married Dorothy Stead, issue: Marjorie Nuttall. The three daughters of Dr. William Nuttall are Ethel Nuttall, Fanny Peel Nuttall, and Edith Nuttall. Matthew Peel married second,

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Ann Shepherd, cousin-german to his first wife, but d. s.p. Ellen Kay, who married William Gibbs, an extensive Hosier at Leeds.

Mrs. Gibbs, now about four-score years of age, and still blessed with comparative good health, takes great interest in the business so long carried on by her husband and their family.

Nearing the close of his labours, and wishful to have his own assumption verified as to William Kay's descendants, the author requested Mrs. Gibbs to inform him as to the name of her grandfather. Under date June 25th, 1903, Mrs. Gibbs wrote:

"I am pleased to give you the information you ask for in order to enable you to give the pedigree of JOHN KAY the Inventor of the Fly-Shuttle. My paternal grandfather was William; he married a Miss Grundy, a connection of the Park Hill Grundys."

The author was perfectly satisfied that Mrs. Gibbs' letter was full confirmation as to the assertions made by descendants of William Kay's elder brother.

Mrs. Gibbs' family are: Mary Kay Gibbs who married Benjamin McKay, George Gibbs, William Gibbs, Ellen Gibbs.

Susannah Kay married Robert Yarwood, Hat Manufacturer, Leeds; no records of issue available.

Rebecca Kay married William Entwistle, junior manager at the Moorside Works of Messrs. Walker and Lomax, Bury, Lanc., and left issue; no records available.

In bringing to a close the long genealogical chapter the author has to crave indulgence from all readers concerned. The labour involved in sifting and arranging the particulars given here has been somewhat arduous.

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Evidence is still available to prove the claims of the collateral branches set out here to their right of kinship with the family which settled at Park and from which the Inventor sprung.

It is made clear by Wills and documents which the author has been able to consult, that the aim of the head of the Park family of Kays was to found a family, and that the freehold estate of Park should pass generation after generation to the eldest son. Not only the estate should so pass, but the Christian name so far as possible should be Robert Kay. In the fourth generation came the unsuspected boy of genius. His feats became the proud boast of all his relatives. From father to son the relationship was claimed.

From 1730 down to the present year of Grace, the families deriving from Thomas Kay, born in 1730, have maintained this blood relationship. The John Kay born 1803, son of John Kay born 1760, up to the day he lay on his bed expecting soon to pass away, claimed the flour merchant, John Kay of Moorside, as his cousin-german. Herein and hereby the author claims to have linked together the various families of Kays and their descendants set out in this descent of collaterals upon a truthful basis. A considerable number of the persons named in this chapter were well-known to the author more than sixty years ago.

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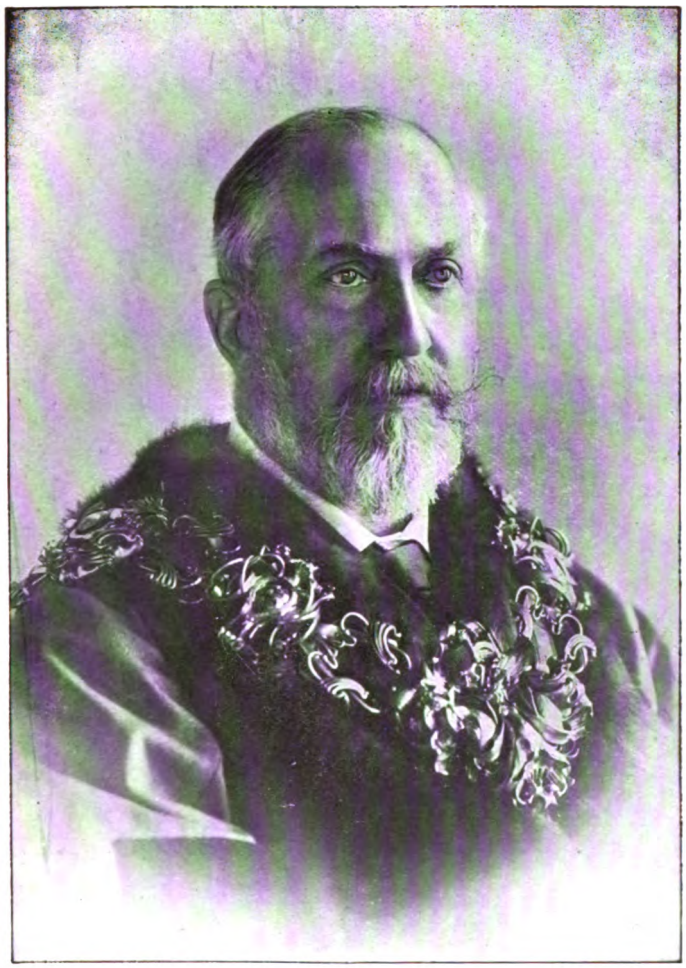

Rt. Hon. Frederick 16th Earl of Derby, K.G., G.C.B., P.C.,

Guild Mayor for Preston, 1902.

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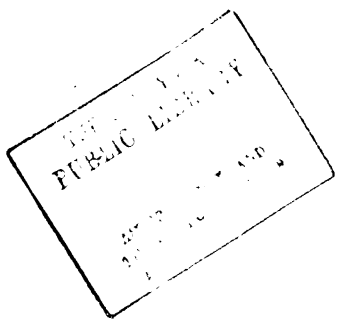

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Councillor R. D. DUXBURY, J.P.,

Mayor of Bury, 1903.

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Appendix.

THE JOHN KAY MEMORIAL.

Town's Meeting at Bury, March 14th, 1903.

From the *Bury Times*, March 18th, 1903.

A PUBLIC MEETING, CONVENED BY THE MAYOR OF BURY in accordance with a resolution carried at the Town Council meeting held on December 31st, 1903, was held in the Co-operative Hall on Saturday evening, March 14th, 1903, "to consider the advisability of erecting a monument in memory of the late John Kay, the Inventor of the Fly-Shuttle, and to pass such resolution or resolutions as may be deemed advisable."

THE EARL OF DERBY PRESIDED.

Among others present were the Mayor of Bury (Councillor Duxbury), Sir William H. Bailey (who delivered a lecture on "John Kay of Bury, the Pioneer Inventor, and other Mechanicians of Lancashire"), Aldermen Holt, Sykes, and Wike; Councillors T. Ashworth, Bentley, Hill, S. Kay, Moult, Slater, F. Smith, Spencer, Wilde, and Wilson; the Town Clerk, Mr. J. Haslam; the Deputy Town Clerk, Mr. S. Parker; the Borough Treasurer, Mr. R. W. Buxton; the Borough Librarian, Mr. A. Sparke; the Mayor of Heywood, Alderman Hoyle; the Town Clerk of Heywood, Mr. G. G. Bouchier; Major Hutchinson, Messrs. J. Kenyon, T. G. Statter, S. H. Renshaw, H. Webb, O. S. Hall, J. Howard Hall, S. Woodcock, W. Holt, H. T. Bull, S. Kay (Milner Avenue), G. Yates, J. Knight, F. Barlow, J. W. Kenyon, Kay Kay, J. Wilson, I. Rickus, W. Davenport, J. Foulds, and Superintendent Noblett.

The Mayor read communications which had been received from Mr. G. Toulmin, M.P., the Lord Mayor of Manchester (Councillor John Royle), and Mr. Robert Hall. Mr. Toulmin, writing from the House of Commons, said, "I regret that I shall be unable to support the Earl of Derby this evening, which I should very much have enjoyed doing had I been within reach of Bury. I have very little doubt of the success of the meeting for

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such an object, under the auspices of such a chairman. Doubtless Bury will decide to do honour to itself and to JOHN KAY." The Lord Mayor of Manchester wrote regretting his inability, owing to the state of his health, to be present. He added, "I hope you will have a good meeting, and I doubt not that Sir William Bailey will be able to say something to the company which will not only be very interesting but very instructive." Mr. Robert Hall of Arden House and Hope Foundry, telegraphed from Southport, "Deeply regret cannot be with you to-night; trust you will have successful and enthusiastic meeting; kindly accept £100 subscription." The Mayor then vacated the chair in favour of the Earl of Derby.

SPEECH BY LORD DERBY.

Lord Derby, who was well received, said he would very much rather the Mayor had presided that evening than that he should have called upon him (Lord Derby) to do so. He had, however, been brought up in the municipal school and had served the office that His Worship so honourably filled in Bury in two other places, and he had come to look upon the Mayor of a town as representing the highest municipal opinion in that town, and, therefore, as one who was to be more regarded than anyone else during his year of office, and he therefore obeyed his commands without further hesitation. Coming at once to the point of the meeting, Lord Derby said that JOHN KAY, as many of them knew, had done more for the manufactures of Lancashire, and for all places where looms were in use, than almost any other man traceable in the cotton industry. He was a born inventor, and it certainly seemed curious that not only Bury, his birthplace, a town whose interests were so closely connected with the cotton trade, but that the county of Lancashire should have allowed all these long years to go by without doing anything commemorative of him. There was now a feeling in this town of theirs that the time had come when JOHN KAY'S claims upon those engaged in the cotton trade should be better known, and that a suitable memorial, probably a statue, should be raised in Bury to remind even the most careless passer-by that in the town of Bury such a man of genius had lived. Subscriptions would be invited later on, and if the sum realised expectations he believed it was under contemplation to found a scholarship in the name of JOHN KAY for the benefit of young men possessing mechanical genius. That, in one word, was the root and kernel of what he had to

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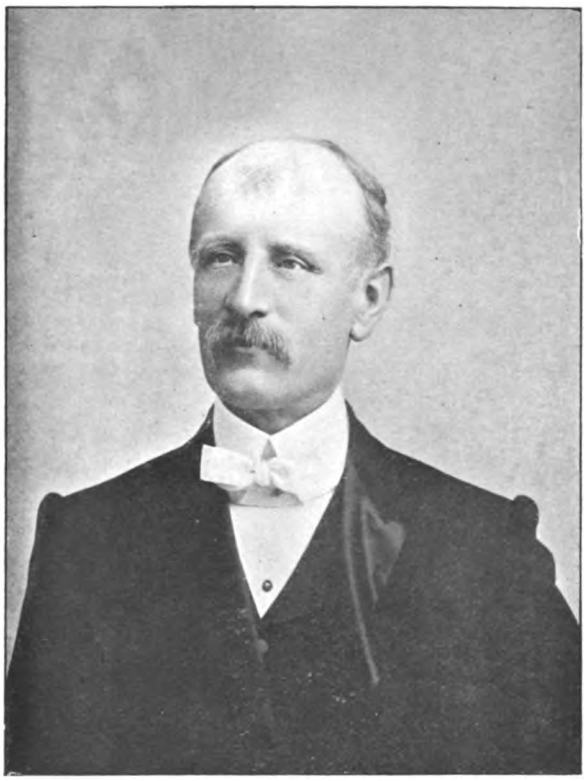

ROBERT HALL, ESQ.

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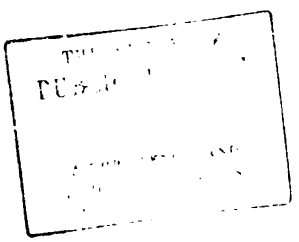

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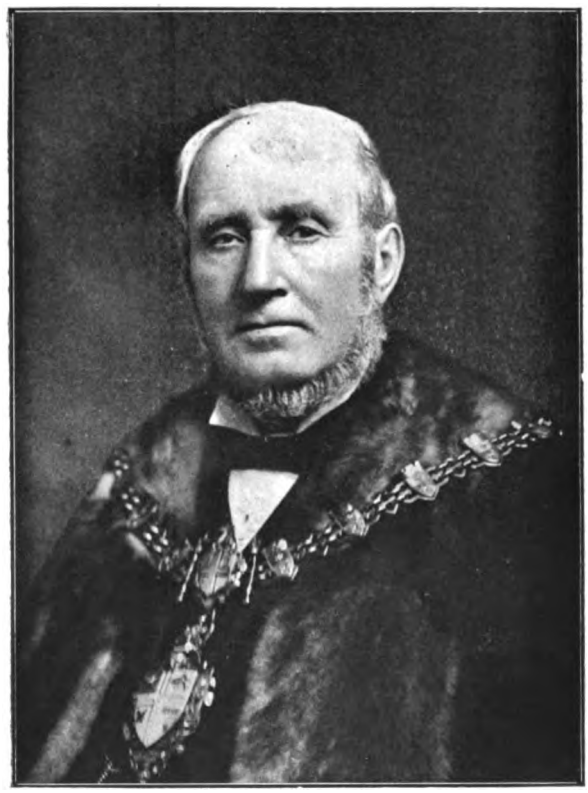

Alderman THOMAS HOLT, J.P.,

Mayor of Bury, 1901.

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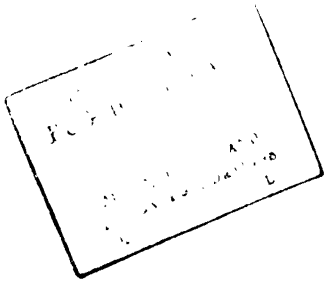

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say. As Sir William Bailey, who was well-known throughout Lancashire for his knowledge of these subjects, would speak to them of KAY's career and of the work of some other Lancashire inventors he (Lord Derby) would only briefly touch upon one or two of the considerations which struck him in connection with KAY's life. It was a curious thing that KAY himself should be such an advanced thinker. He did not know whether many of them were acquainted with the general lines of KAY's life, but it was, like the life of many inventors, neither fortunate nor happy. In a popular play produced some years ago there was a song, the burden of which was "The policeman's lot is not a happy one," but that might still more truly be said of the lot of the inventor. The man who devoted his life to invention must be ahead of other men; he must overcome dislike or suspicion of his ideas; he must show clearly that what he was proposing to do was likely to result in good; and he must have power to induce others to accept his belief and ability to bring it to a successful issue. There was no one in the days of KAY—unless a rich patron chanced to turn up—to come to the assistance of the genius; there were no syndicates in those days to take up inventions on speculation and float them. KAY seemed to have been one of those who was full of inventions, but the one which brought him the greatest fame was that of the fly-shuttle, though others of a minor character played a prominent part in the construction of the loom. Up to the time of his most important invention, hand-loom weaving, in which the shuttle had been thrown by hand, had been a great industry in the Bury district from time immemorial, and later on the great factories which were now so numerous had sprung up. In spite of his genius, KAY's life was mostly spent in sorrow and anxiety. He finally went abroad and there died, and he thought it might be said of him, as it was said of Moses—"that the place of his sepulchre is known to no man." He hoped it would not always be said of KAY's own town—of their own town—that it was so forgetful of him that they had not raised a permanent memorial of a man of genius, one who was an inhabitant of the town, but who was driven out of it, history recording that it was with difficulty he got away with his life. No doubt those who were met that evening were certain that if they had been living in those times they would not have sent the inventor out of town at the risk of his life. They could not recall the past, but the people of Bury

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to-day could show that they recognised and honoured his skill and cleverness, and looked upon him—as he was in point of fact—as one of those pioneers of that great hive of industry which had settled down in this county, and which they hoped would abide and flourish for ever.

The Mayor proposed, "That in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable that a public memorial should be erected in Bury to perpetuate the memory of JOHN KAY, the inventor of the fly-shuttle, and that it be referred to a committee, consisting of the Mayor (Councillor Duxbury), the Deputy Mayor (Councillor Battersby), Aldermen Holt, Sykes, Walker, and Wike, Councillors Mould, R. Kay, and Wilson, and Messrs. J. R. Crompton, Robert Hall, James Kenyon, Samuel H. Renshaw, Henry Webb, and Henry Whitehead to decide as to the character of such memorial, and that the committee have power to add to their number."

Alderman Holt, in seconding the motion, said they had met that evening to put into practical shape a matter that had been too long neglected, that had never been brought forward before the people as it ought to have been, and that had never been recognised by the people of Bury, the birthplace of the great inventor, as it ought to have been. KAY was born at Park, Walmersley, on July 16th, 1704, and the fly-shuttle that he invented was still being used practically all over the civilised world. As far back as historical evidence could show they found the methods of weaving in vogue that were still practised at the time of JOHN KAY's birth. There was no doubt that for five thousand years this method of throwing the shuttle was pursued. Millions of artisans had been using this method without improvement when one wonderful man—JOHN KAY of Bury—sprang up and changed it all, making it possible for four or five times the work to be done by the weaver. He need hardly tell them that KAY's invention was not appreciated in his time, for it was common in those days to regard a man who invented a labour-saving machine as one who was plotting to deprive people of their means of livelihood. Folks had become wiser as the years had gone by, and it was recognised that men and women were now far better off than they would have been had the old conditions continued. The people of Bury rose up against KAY, broke into his house, smashed his furniture, and he was only got away by being placed in a woollen sheet. Since that time many

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JAMES KENYON, Esq., J.P.,

Twice Member of Parliament for Bury, Co. Lancs.

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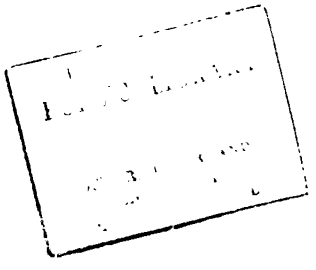

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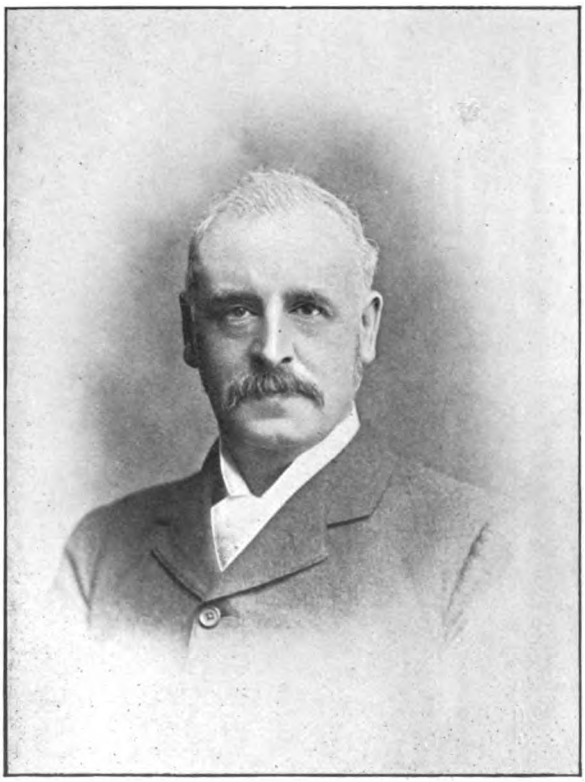

Col. GEORGE EDWARD WIKE, J.P.,

Twice Mayor of Bury.

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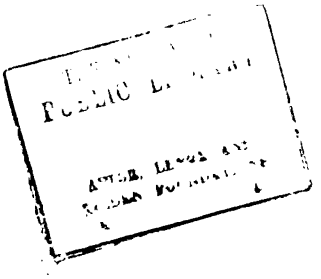

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fortunes had been made in a great measure through his invention, and it was only fitting that Bury, the town of his birth, should in some outward manner recognise his genius.

The motion was heartily carried.

Alderman Wike moved that a public subscription list be opened to defray the cost of the memorial, and that the Mayor act as honorary treasurer, and Councillor Mould as honorary secretary. He said the record of Bury in the past had been in many respects an honourable one. They had many things to be proud of in connection with their town and with the great men who had gone before them, and with the great productions which had proceeded from their town. The year 1903 looked like being a record year for Bury in many ways. The town was being honoured by having one of its sons chosen as the High Sheriff of the county, it was going to raise a memorial to the Lancashire Fusiliers, and it was going to subscribe for a suitable memorial to JOHN KAY, the inventor. He felt convinced that Bury was only too glad to support any subscription list if the object was only a good one. He thought they ought to find fault with the Earl of Derby and the people of Bury of one hundred years ago for not having raised a memorial to the great patentee at the time of the centenary. They were now going to do something to repair the fault of one hundred years ago.

Alderman Sykes seconded the motion.

Mr. James Kenyon said he was glad to support that movement for two reasons. The first was that alluded to by Alderman Wike, when he spoke of what the people of one hundred years ago ought to have done. They owed JOHN KAY'S memory an atonement, and Bury now had a chance of making an atonement, and he hoped the subscriptions would not come from a few, but would be thoroughly representative of the whole borough. He regarded the working man or woman's sixpence or shilling as being equal to the rich man's sovereign or five-pound note. The other reason why he favoured the memorial scheme was that a memorial to a great man encouraged the living, old and young alike, to use the power they possessed to the best purpose. They would see how a man was held in honour for the ability he had shown and the good he had done, and it was possible that in some cases they might be encouraged to follow in his footsteps. Although it was about two hundred

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years since KAY was born, and one hundred and sixty or one hundred and seventy years since he invented the shuttle, he (Mr. Kenyon) could still take them to places where they were still weaving cloth, in the manner described to them by Alderman Holt, by throwing the shuttle from one hand to the other. This might seem strange to them, but he actually saw it when in India in 1897.

Lord Derby said that he had received the following letter from Mr. Henry Whitehead, the High Sheriff of Lancashire:—"It it with the greatest regret that I find I shall not be able to attend the meeting over which you have been good enough to preside on Saturday next. I am compelled to meet an engagement in London on the afternoon of that day, otherwise nothing would have given me greater pleasure than to have supported you in the chair and to hear the address which is to be given by my friend Sir William Bailey. I cannot but feel that the inhabitants of Bury have had a great many calls on their benevolence during the past twelve months, still, I am sure that they will gladly respond to an appeal for an object which has been too long neglected. If all the manufacturers of Lancashire would contribute a few pence for each loom that they are working, and if the operatives would only contribute a proportionate amount, Lancashire would be able to commemorate one of its greatest mechanical inventors in a handsome manner. For my own part, should it be decided to erect a monument in memory of the late JOHN KAY, I will guarantee subscriptions of at least £250 from the members of my family."

SIR WILLIAM BAILEY'S LECTURE.

Sir W. H. Bailey, in the course of his lecture, said that it was a very happy thing to find a public meeting in honour of KAY held under such auspices as that meeting. They had with them, and presiding over the meeting, the greatest authority in the county next to the King—he meant the Lord-Lieutenant; they were also supported by the High Sheriff of Lancashire, Mr. Henry Whitehead, a man who was himself descended from JOHN KAY; and they had also the Chief Magistrate of Bury, the sacred town of invention. Speaking on the subject of his lecture, Sir William described KAY as the Christopher Columbus among the mechanical inventors of Lancashire, and pointed to the remarkable fact that seventy-five per cent. of the inventions in textile trade machinery had sprung from the narrow strip known

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Sir WILLIAM HENRY BAILEY, Knt.

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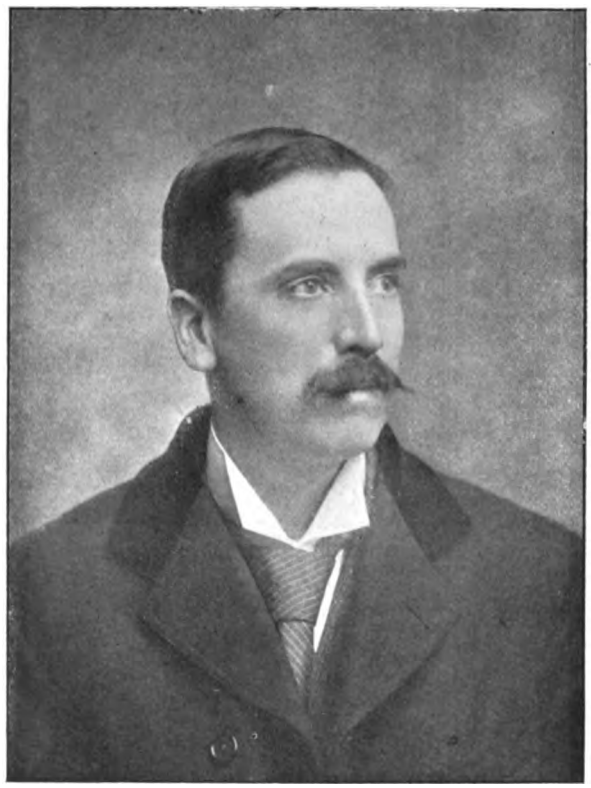

Councillor J. D. MOULD.

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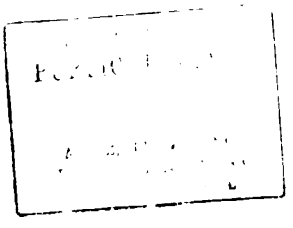

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as the Irwell Valley. Speaking as an engineer himself, he always felt that he was on sacred soil when he visited the birthplace of that wonderfully ingenious and martyred man, JOHN KAY. Prior to KAY's birth other countries were far ahead of England in textile manufactures. The Dutch loom was far superior to anything in use in this country; foreign spinning, foreign bleaching, foreign silk manufactures were all better than ours, and the turkey-red dyeing in France was much superior to that in England. The religious persecutions abroad drove many of these foreigners over here, and perhaps one of the most charming descriptions of our country was written by a Dutchman residing near Radcliffe to a fellow-countryman on the Continent, when he said "England is the haven of Christ." These foreigners started turkey-red dyeing in Manchester, tape weaving at Radcliffe, and introduced many other textile manufactures in different parts of Lancashire. It was due to the mechanical genius of these Irwell Valley men—from Preston and Blackburn to Bury and Bolton—that the great rise in the English trade was mainly due. There was nothing in history to parallel this wonderfully dramatic revolution brought about by the mechanical inventions commencing with the invention of that pioneer inventor JOHN KAY. Pluck, perseverance, hard work, and dependence on Divine power—these qualities had won the victories of Britain in the arts of peace just as they had upheld the British flag on the battlefield. Sir William proceeded to narrate many of the principal incidents of KAY's life.

Defoe, who visited Bury in the beginning of the eighteenth century, described it in his *Tour through the whole island of Great Britain*. He said, "Here we observed the so-called manufacture of cotton which is so great at Manchester, Bolton, &c., was ended, and woollen manufacture of coarse sorts, called half-thicks and kersies, begun, which employs this and all the villages about it. The market for them (the half-thicks and kersies) is very great, though the town is situated so remote, so out-of-the-way, and at the very foot of the mountains, that it would otherwise be but little frequented." Sir William, continuing, traced the progress made by English manufactures from the time of KAY down to the present time. Speaking of the Earl of Derby's remark that at present they did not know where the body of KAY had been laid, he said he believed the remark was at present true, but he had hopes that the burial-place of the great inventor

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would yet be discovered. He had hopes that when the English colony in Paris, or in other parts of France, saw the accounts of that meeting they would make some effort to discover the place where KAY lies buried. Continuing, Sir William presented the Mayor with a framed and mounted photogravure copy of the KAY fresco (by Ford Madox Brown), and announced that the Lord Mayor and Corporation of Manchester had given him permission to have one hundred of these copies taken for disposal for the benefit of the fund. As it was only to be done for the benefit of the movement, they might be sure that there would be no further reproductions. He proposed to present these hundred copies to the KAY monument Committee. Sir William concluded with an optimistic reference to the trade of England, but added that it was foolish to expect that England could monopolise the trade of the world any more than that she could monopolise the moonbeams or the sunbeams. Other nations would make progress — that went without saying; why should England try to monopolise the good things of Almighty God in the absurd way that some writers seemed to desire that she should? They ought to feel full of gratitude for the good things they did enjoy and for the inventions to which they owed so many of those good things. He hoped that not only would they erect a monument to JOHN KAY, the pioneer inventor, but also that the other inventors of the Irwell Valley would be similarly honoured in the places where they were born.

A vote of thanks to the Earl of Derby, to Sir W. H. Bailey, and all who had assisted to make the meeting a success was passed, on the motion of Councillor Mould, seconded by Councillor Battersby.

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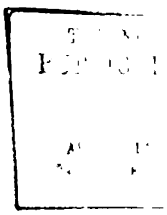

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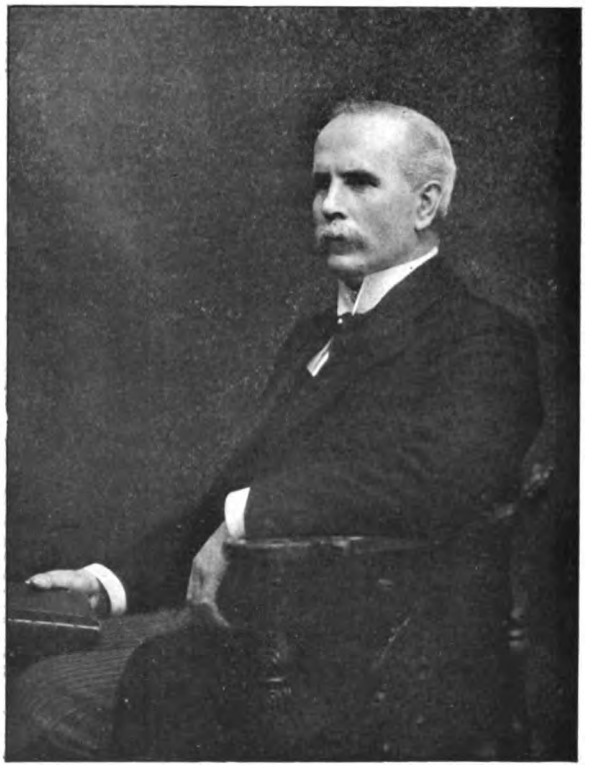

HENRY WHITEHEAD, J.P., D.L.,

High Sheriff of Lancashire, 1903.

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MR. HENRY WHITEHEAD,

HIGH SHERIFF OF LANCASHIRE,

1903.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

AFTER Dr. Walter Whitehead, F.R.C.S., &c., President of the British Medical Association, &c., Manchester, the High Sheriff for the County Palatine of Lancashire is the head of the family descended from JOHN KAY the inventor, through the eldest son Robert Kay, inventor of the Drop Box.

On Thursday, March 11th, 1903, the name of Mr. Henry Whitehead of Haslam Hey was "pricked" as the High Sheriff of Lancashire for the current year. Mr. Whitehead is the first magistrate of the Bury Division who has been appointed to this honourable position since Colonel O. O. Walker of Chesham held office in 1876. Colonel Walker held office four years after the late Mr. Thomas Wrigley of Timberhurst.

The office of Sheriff, scirgerefa, or governor of the shires, dates back from Saxon times. In the days which preceded the Norman conquest there were two great officers at the head of the county organisation—the Ealderman or Earl, and the Sheriff. The latter was more particularly the representative of the King, and after the Norman Conquest he became purely a royal officer. In mediæval times the Sheriff was possessed of great powers, and had important financial, judicial, and military duties to discharge, but since then the office has lost all its financial and some of its judicial duties, and the Sheriff is now chiefly a ministerial officer. He arrests and imprisons offenders, summons and returns the jury, and carries the judgment or sentence of the court into effect. In Tudor times a new officer, the Lord Lieutenant, was instituted, and the mililtary functions formerly fulfilled by the Sheriff were transferred to him. At the prest time the Lord Lieutenant is regarded as the highest official dignitary in the county, but the office and duties of the Sheriff are still of great importance and dignity. The office of Lord Lieutenant of a county is held at the pleasure of the Sovereign, but is virtually a life office. Shrieval honours are held for twelve months only.

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The "pricking" for Sheriffs is a time-honoured ceremony. The duty of reporting to the Privy Council the names of three fit and duly qualified persons to serve as Sheriff of each county devolves upon the Judges of Assize, and it is usually done on the morrow of St. Martin (November 12th), the names being finally determined upon on the morrow of the Purification (February 3rd). The first name is generally taken, unless some valid excuse has been given. The list is presented to the Sovereign at a meeting of the Privy Council, and he pierces with a bodkin the place opposite the name of the Sheriff selected for each county. To this rule there are, however, several exceptions. For instance, the counties of Cambridge and Huntingdon enjoy but one Sheriff between them; the Sheriff of Cornwall is appointed by the Prince of Wales, as Duke of Cornwall, by letters patent; and the Sheriff of the county of Lancaster is pricked by the King, as owner of the Duchy of Lancaster, usually at some time other than that at which the Sheriffs of the other counties are pricked.

Mr. Whitehead's Career.

Although he has never taken an active part in the government of the town, no man is better known to the people of Bury than Mr. Henry Whitehead. Twenty years ago things were different. At that time the Bury Corporation had a strong desire to bring the Lowercroft Bleachworks within the borough boundaries, and Mr. Whitehead, for his part, was doing his utmost to check the ambition shown in that desire. As the issue of the matter was still in doubt the relations between Mr. Whitehead and the Corporation could not be regarded as settled upon a friendly basis. The conflict that was pending between them did not necessarily promise to become an unfriendly one—for after all the question of the public good was involved—but there was, nevertheless, obvious need for the display of tact and consideration if anger and bitterness, which might result in permanent estrangement, were to be avoided. The difference has been settled long since, and Lowercroft Bleachworks and other parts of Elton and Walshaw now form parts of the borough of Bury. It is still interesting, however, to recall the spirit in which Mr. Whitehead acted at that time towards the Corporation he was opposing.

Many readers will recollect that at the time when the question of the extension of the borough was vexing the souls of members

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of the Corporation, a committee of influential inhabitants of Bury and Elton, who were endeavouring to raise funds and to obtain land for the provision of a Park or Recreation Grounds, were almost in despair. Money was coming in but slowly, and the price asked for land seemed prohibitive. But just when the committee's difficulties appeared to become insurmountable help came from an unexpected quarter. In November, 1883, a gentleman was announced at the Manchester office of Alderman Duckworth, a member of the Bury Corporation who had taken a great interest in the Recreation Grounds movement. The object of this gentleman's visit was to make the offer of a free gift of a fine piece of land, to be used by the inhabitants of Elton as a Recreation Ground for ever. The offer electrified the worthy Alderman, who, with his co-workers, had been lately very much depressed. It put heart into every member of the Recreation Grounds' Committee; it caused subscribers who had been hanging back for no other reason than to see what other people intended doing to come forward; in fine, it ensured the town having one Recreation Ground at least, and it brought three other such grounds from the hazy distance to the immediate foreground in the prospect. The gentleman who waited upon Alderman Duckworth was Mr. Henry Whitehead, and it will be known to many that his first generous offer was afterwards largely extended. These things are matters of common knowledge to-day, but nineteen years ago people were much surprised that the first substantial gift to the town of Bury, *pro bono publico*, should come from a gentleman who was strenuously resisting the attempt which the Corporation were making to force him to become a burgess. In the same year that the people of Elton obtained their Recreation Ground the donor paid his first rates as an owner and occupier within the added areas of the borough of Bury. That Mr. Whitehead does not bear ill-will to the town on account of the annexation, against his will, of that portion of Elton which contained his works, has been made plain over and over again during the last seventeen years, for in that time he has given many proofs of the kindly interest that he takes in the welfare of Bury and its people. Although of course known to the people of Bury for many years previously, his opposition to the Corporation on the added areas question, and his gift to Elton of the Whitehead Recreation Ground, may be fairly regarded as Mr. Whitehead's introduction to the inhabitants in the capacity of a public man.

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His Descent from John Kay.

The Whiteheads of Elton have been associated with the trade of this district as whitsters, or bleachers, for many generations—tradition says for at least two centuries and a half. The business at Lowercroft, which has been carried on for many years under the style of John Whitehead Limited, was established before 1771. Generation after generation of Whiteheads lived and died in the old house at Haslam Hey, which stood on the site now occupied by Mr. Henry Whitehead's present residence until about a quarter of a century ago. If we are to accept the testimony of the oak lintel over one of the doorways, this old house was built in 1647, but the letters "G.I.V." on this beam do not suggest that it was built by a member of the Whitehead family.

At the present time, when Bury is preparing to celebrate the bi-centenary of the birth of John Kay the inventor, by the erection of a suitable memorial, it is interesting to recall the fact that Mr. Henry Whitehead is a direct descendant of that great but hitherto sadly neglected genius. His grandfather, the elder Mr. John Whitehead, married Miss Elizabeth Oram, daughter of Mr. Thomas Oram by his wife Lucy, who was a daughter of Robert Kay the inventor of the Drop-Box, and a grand-daughter of John Kay the inventor of the Fly-Shuttle. This descent is naturally much cherished by the present generation of Whiteheads. Dr. Walter Whitehead referred to it with pardonable pride in his Presidential Address to the members of the British Medical Association on July 29th last; and Mr. Henry Whitehead recalled it when on a recent occasion he presented the Bury Art Gallery Committee with a portrait in oils of John Kay. The Whiteheads themselves are an ingenious family, even apart from this connection with John Kay, for in comparatively recent times, Mr. Robert Whitehead, who is not in the line of descent from Kay, but who is first cousin to Mr. Henry Whitehead's father, invented the famous war torpedo, which was named after him and which is still, some thirty years after its adoption, one of the most formidable weapons in the ever-changing art of naval warfare. It is instructive to compare the treatment meted out to the originator of the war torpedo with that accorded the inventor of the Fly-Shuttle. Mr. Henry Whitehead's cousin, who has given the world a powerful engine of destruction, has had the satisfaction of seeing his invention eagerly adopted by

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every Government in Europe; but the ancestor, whose discovery did so much to cheapen the clothing of the people and to create a great and prosperous industry for his native country, died in extreme poverty in a foreign land. Those who believe in heredity may find some support for their theories in the wonderful success which has attended the original methods and operations in surgical science of Dr. Walter Whitehead, the new High Sheriff's distinguished elder brother. The Rev. Roger Kay, Rector of Fittleton, Wiltshire, and Prebendary of Salisbury, the Re-Founder of the Bury Grammar School, was also a forefather of the Whiteheads. Another clerical ancestor, his father's great-grandfather, was the Rev. Robert Whitehead, vicar of Ringley.

Mr. Whitehead and the Volunteers and N.R.A.

Mr. Henry Whitehead was born in 1842, two years after his brother Walter. His father was the younger Mr. John Whitehead (1815-1898), and his mother a daughter of Mr. John Allanson, bleacher and dyer, of Kershaw Bridge. He was educated at the Bury Grammar School in the time of the Rev. H. C. Boutflower and the Rev. J. Mashiter, and afterwards went to a private school. He entered into business when sixteen years of age, and from that time to the present his life has been an exceedingly active and varied one. A mere youth when the Volunteer movement and the agitation which gave rise to the National Rifle Association began, Mr. Whitehead threw himself into both movements with all the ardour and freshness of youth. The freshness has worn off, but the ardour is still unquenched, and his interest in the welfare of the Volunteers has long survived his personal connection with the force. It is a source of pride to him that he has served in the Volunteer force both as a private and as an officer—an experience probably unique in the roll of Lancashire's High Sheriffs.

Mr. Whitehead's connection with the National Rifle Association, of which we have received some particulars from the Secretary (Colonel Cross), is full of interest. An account of his performances as a rifleman alone would fill a good-sized book. Few marksmen can point to a record so uniformly good over a long period of time. Since the year 1860 he has missed shooting at only two of the annual meetings, and he has taken many valuable prizes. The trophies that he has won include the Association Cup in 1872 and 1895; the Dudley Cup in 1877,

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1878, and 1894; the Windmill Cup in 1872; the Wimbledon Cup in 1883 and 1888; the "Graphic" Cup in 1872; the Elkington Cup in 1889; and many minor prizes. His name has figured sixteen times in the English Eight who have competed for the Elcho Shield, and he has often shot in the Lancashire team for the China Cup.

The National Rifle Association is indebted to two Bury gentlemen for many valuable prizes. Mr. Henry Whitehead is one and the other is Captain John Barlow of Wellfield. The Whitehead Prize, value £25, was given by Mr. Whitehead in the years 1882 and 1884. In the two years following he gave a cup of similar value. In 1887 he was the donor of a cup worth £35, in the following year he gave a cup worth £50, and in 1889 one valued at £30. The Whitehead Challenge Cup, valued at £200, was given in 1894, being open to teams of eight revolver shots representing the Royal Navy, Regular Army, Royal Marines, Militia, Yeomanry, Volunteers, and All Comers not qualified by association with any of the forces named. Other gifts to the Association include a donation of £50 to the Appeal Fund, and £20 towards the expenses of the English team which won the Palma Trophy in Canada. Mr. Whitehead's recent gift of a valuable silver challenge cup to encourage shooting among officers of the army, will still be fresh in the minds of many readers. He became a life member of the Association in 1877, and a member of the Council in 1888, and since his election to the Council he has devoted much of his time to the work of the various committees.

Mr. Whitehead's interest in the Volunteer force, as we have seen, did not cease when he withdrew from active membership. He has done all in his power to encourage good shooting in the local battalion, allowing the Volunteers to use his private range and in other ways showing his interest in the welfare of the force. Perhaps that interest has increased in recent years owing to the fact that his son, Mr. John Whitehead, is the holder of a lieutenant's commission in the battalion. It was chiefly owing to the exertions of Mr. Whitehead, who was backed up by several other local gentlemen, that some three or four years ago an attempt was made to revive the representation of the battalion at the Bisley competitions. Teams were sent in two successive years, but for some reason or other the project afterwards fell through. The gift of the noble silver cup which now adorns the

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Bury Art Gallery, and which commemorates the patriotism of the men of the battalion who formed parts of three Active Service Companies in the recent war, is the latest mark of the favour in which the new High Sheriff holds the local Volunteer force.

In addition to his patronage of the Bisley meeting, Mr. Whitehead has given a cup—known as the Bury Challenge Cup—to the Altcar meeting, at which the competitions of the County of Lancaster Rifle Association annually take place. The cup, a beautiful silver bowl worth about £20, is given in connection with the Lord Lieutenant's Prize. Should a competitor succeed in winning the Lord Lieutenant's Prize three years in succession —a task attended with very great difficulty—he will become the absolute owner of the Bury Challenge Cup.

Wins International Honours.

Any account of Mr. Whitehead's successes as a marksman would be incomplete which omitted all reference to his brilliant achievement in winning the Gun Club's International Competition in 1887. In this competition, which was open to all the world, Mr. Whitehead was opposed by the crack shots of many nations. Apart from the honour which was commensurate with the skill required to gain the premier position in such good company, the prize itself was well worth winning, for it consisted of a silver cup valued at £250, a gold medal, and £230 in specie. The last three men remaining were M. Journu, a Fenchman whose reputation with the gun was world-wide and almost unrivalled, Mr. Henry Whitehead, and Sir John Willoughby. The Baronet was the first to fail, and after he had fallen out a most exciting contest ensued between the French and English sportsmen. The former failed at the eighteenth round, but Mr. Whitehead, who had been shooting all through with the greatest steadiness and nerve, was successful, his somewhat unexpected victory over M. Journu being hailed by his compatriots as a national triumph. It is often said that gun shooting tells against good rifle practice, but the fact that within a month of his success in the Gun Club's International Competition Mr. Whitehead was the top scorer in the English Eight suggests that this theory is not altogether reliable.

Benefactions to Bury.

We have already referred to the fillip given to the Recreation Grounds movement by Mr. Henry Whitehead's first offer of the

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site of the Recreation Ground at Elton. Before the opening of the ground by Mrs. Whitehead, on May 29th, 1886, the original gift was supplemented in several ways. The site was enlarged by about an acre-and-a-half, and Mr. Whitehead prepared another surprise for the Corporation by offering to defray the cost of boundary walls and railings and the caretaker's house. The offer was gratefully accepted, and at a meeting of the Town Council on August 6th, 1885, the receipt of a cheque for £1,347 14s. 9d. in payment of such cost was reported. At the same time a resolution of thanks was passed by the Council, and it was resolved to mount and frame the same before forwarding it to the generous donor. Mrs. Whitehead opened the ground with a gold key presented to her for the purpose by the Corporation. In a description read by the Borough Surveyor (Mr. Joshua Cartwright, C.E.) at the banquet given at the Derby Hotel after the opening ceremony, the value of the land was estimated at £4,500, and it was stated that the cost of the work of laying out the ground represented a further sum of £3,500. Towards this last amount the members of the Whitehead family contributed at least £2,000, the gift of Mr. Whitehead being supplemented by gifts from his father, who was then living, and from Mrs. Henry Whitehead. One sentence of Mr. Cartwright's report is worth remembering. He said, "beyond this the gift is enhanced by the fruits it has already borne, for doubtless it is largely due to the spontaneous generosity of Mr. Whitehead that our wealthy townsmen have so worthily responded to the appeal now being made to provide other and similar grounds in various parts of the borough." In connection with this expression of opinion it should be borne in mind that in less than five years from the date of the opening of the Recreation Ground at Elton three other grounds, similar in character and extent, were opened in other parts of the town. Mr. Whitehead's gift, as is recorded on a memorial stone built into the gardener's lodge, is "in affectionate remembrance of his mother, the late Mrs. John Whitehead of Elton." Particular stress was laid on the fact that the grounds were intended primarily for the enjoyment of the children. Solicitude for the happiness of the children of the town has been often shown by Mr. Whitehead. On several occasions he has given pieces of cannon to the other Recreation Grounds in the town, and he shared with Mr. Edmund Milnes the cost of the bandstand in the Recreation Grounds in Walmersley Road.

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Mr. Whitehead's other gifts to the town included five or six valuable pictures and a large Japanese bronze for the Art Gallery, and the memorial cup in honour of the Volunteer Service Companies, which also stands in the Art Gallery. The wardens of the Bury Parish Church have received a voluntary offer from Mr. Whitehead to defray the cost of providing the church with a new clock. He has been instrumental, further, in obtaining a promise of the model of a warship for the town from Messrs. Armstrong and Whitworth, the well-known shipbuilders, of Newcastle.

His Business Connections.

For many years Mr. Whitehead has been at the head of the firm of John Whitehead Limited, bleachers, dyers, and calico printers, at Lowercroft, Elton. At the celebration of the coming-of-age of his eldest son (Lieutenant John Whitehead) in September, 1894, three employés were present who had been with the firm, fifty-six, fifty-four, and fifty years respectively. These were Messrs. Edward Grindrod, John Aldred, and Thomas Battersby. It was Mr. Whitehead's custom to present each empoyé who completed his half-century of service with a gold watch of the value of £25, and at the coming-of-age celebration three recipients of watches were present. On this occasion Mr. Whitehead presented another old employé, Mr. James Aldred, who had been with him forty-five years, with a gold watch and a purse containing £50. These four veterans had between them an aggregate of service extending to upwards of two hundred years—an eloquent testimony in itself to the character of the relationship subsisting between employer and employed. No doubt all four would recollect the great flood of Sunday, December 5th, 1852, when one of the large reservoirs at Lowercroft was destroyed, and 50,000,000 gallons of water, breaking down all opposition, spread over the adjoining country, and threatened to overwhelm Messrs. Mucklow's works and the Elton gas works, then newly constructed. The damage to property caused by this destructive flood was estimated at £30,000. Mr. Whitehead's time has been largely taken up in the management of the works. He has also extensive interests in other concerns, and is a director of Messrs. W. G. Armstrong and Whitworth, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, and of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Banking Company Limited. The calls of his own business and of these other concerns leave him but little leisure. He finds time, how-

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ever, to preside over the deliberations of the Ainsworth Parish Council, to the chairmanship of which he has been elected annually ever since its formation. He takes a great interest in the affairs of the little village, and would probably say, if he were asked, that he would rather be chairman of this small Parish Council, than Mayor of the largest and wealthiest county borough in Lancashire. Mr. Whitehead's position as chairman is the more honourable to himself because neither his works nor his house are situated within the parish. A year or two ago he presented the village with a recreation ground, and the oaken pulpit in Ainsworth Church was also his gift. It used to stand in the Bury Parish Church, but after the rebuilding of the mother Church of this town a new pulpit was presented by Mr. John Whitehead, and his son, Mr. Henry Whitehead, thereupon purchased the old pulpit, a beautiful erection of carved oak, and presented it to the village church of Ainsworth.

Mr. Whitehead is a magistrate of the Bury Division of the County Palatine, and was placed upon the Commission of the Peace on February 21st, 1887. He is the fourth magistrate of the division who has received shrieval honours since its formation in 1829, his predecessors being Mr. R. N. Philips (1856), Mr. Thomas Wrigley (1872), and Colonel O. O. Walker (1876). Mr. Whitehead married Miss Louisa Priestley, daughter of Mr. Peter Priestley of Euxton, near Chorley. It is interesting to note that he is Sheriff of Lancashire in the same year that his brother, Dr. Walter Whitehead, occupies the position of President of the British Medical Association.

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The Death of John Kay.

Touching the question as to the resting-place of the remains of JOHN KAY, the following letter which appeared in the Bury papers on July 4th, 1903, will be read with interest:—

"SIR,—At the request of the late Mr. John Lord I have been making inquiries in Paris regarding the burial-place of JOHN KAY, the Inventor of the Fly-Shuttle. This week I have received an official letter, from which I translate the following:—

> 'I have the honour to inform you that the registration of the death of John Kay between the years 1750 and 1770 does not appear among the civil papers of Paris.'

This does not prove that JOHN KAY did not die in Paris as it is generally supposed, but that official proof does not exist.

It must not be forgotten that a large number of documents of all kinds were destroyed during the Commune revolutionary days that occurred in Paris.

Yours, etc.,

J. HOWARD HALL.

Heywood Street, Bury, July 1st, 1903.

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